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IMPERIAL MYCOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
5 DEC 1940

Vol. XLI. No. 10 OCTOBER 5th, 1940 Price 6d.

Special Articles This Month

Question of 1941 Acquisition

Experimental Work on Dried Fruits

The Murrumbidgee Irrigation Areas

Apple Juices

Citrus, Dried and Canned Fruits

Interstate News and Notes

The Goulburn Valley, Victoria

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Crop Reports

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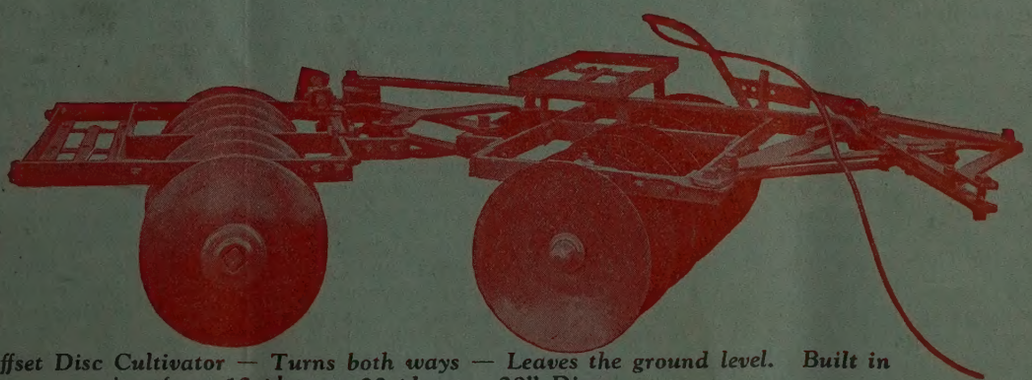

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Extract from "BETTER FRUIT," March, 1937, by Dr. R. L. Webster, Entomologist, State College of Washington, Pullman: CODLIN MOTH COVER SPRAYS—"Ever since the imposition of an arsenic tolerance in 1926, and even before that time, investigators have been testing other materials which may be used in place of lead arsenate. Following all these intensive and extensive investigations lead arsenate appears to have certain inherent qualities which place this material foremost as an insecticide for codlin moth control."

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PITHY BITS

By "Gadabout"

(Continued from last month.)

War: Another month of war, with its setbacks and its successes. Again does Gadabout congratulate the fighters of the Empire. They have certainly got Hitler and Mussolini thinking. Gadabout firmly believes that the Empire has started to win.

The hearts of all of us go out in sympathy to the suffering heroes of London—to the crashing airmen and now to those lost in Germany's most murderous act of the war, the slaughter of the children and others at sea.

Commonwealth Elections.

Every other issue but winning the war was thrust into the background. Let us hope that our new representatives will realise that Australia have given one very clear mandate at least and that is that the murderous and dictatorial leaders of Germany and Italy must at all costs be defeated.

However, we cannot completely shut our eyes to such problems as:

What shall we buy and where shall we sell. This is a problem which, after all, is a vital part of the big war issue of **"How shall Australia be organised for defence and defiance."**

Gadabout was much amused last Friday night to hear a candidate for Federal honors talking on problems of **War and Government** in the midst of an active market evening. This has already been written of in another paper, but this is Gadabout's impression.

"What is really your opinion, my friends, of the work of my party?" cried the candidate. To which would come a medley of replies of "Carrots threepence a bunch" and "Parsnips, Turnips and Spuds, the best in the market."

Later: "What do you think of Government control and the Apple Acquisition Committee?" to which the unconscious reply came: "Good Apples here, 5d. a pound" and in another place "Apples 3½ pounds for 6d." The good and the bad.

Then on went the candidate to the problems of Banking, National Government, Higher pay for Soldiers, etc.—but you still heard the same medley of shouts of "Apples, Carrots, Parsnips and Spuds."

Perhaps unconsciously they were giving the right answer, which is **Produce, Produce, Produce and Sell what you produce.** How vitally the growers are concerned in this.

Gadabout suggests the following—can others make still further suggestions.

(1) That Federal and State Governments and Government Departments be appealed to to join in an extension of the "Eat More Fruit" campaign.

(2) Let growers and agents alike join in a selling campaign. Restriction of sellers is surely a mistake.

(3) Reduction in the price of sugar.

(4) An earnest endeavor be made to secure more shipping and some markets abroad.

Has Gadabout gone crazy when he suggests that the restrictions on the selling of inferior fruit: Codlings, black spots, etc., be far more strictly enforced and that a good **minimum** price be **fixed** for all Apples being say 2⅜in. and over in size and a low price could be fixed for smaller fruit to make it unprofitable to produce. A similar plan could also operate for Pears.

Would this not encourage the grower to grow better and larger fruit by thinning out his crop by pulling off his blemished fruit and by spraying, ploughing and irrigating, etc.?

It might even pay the grower if the sale of say 2¼in. and under Apples were prevented, but above everything, however, the cost of marketing must not be higher than it was prior to the advent of the Acquisition Committee. The Committee can do good service. Considering the difficulties it was asked to face it has done as well as anyone could have done, but **the results next year must be different.**

This can only be done by co-operation by all concerned.

Gadabout has noted "Sleepy Growers'" suggestion in last month's issue, and thanks him for it. The Southern Victorian Pear Packing Co. are capable of giving definite assistance. Will they? We would like to hear from them. "Sleepy Grower" should have signed himself "Wide Awake Grower." He is quite right. The growers are "Cutting each other's throats" and the position is appalling. We want a "Get Together League."

A NEW APPLE VARIETY.

"Red Summer" is Reported.

For more than 30 years, growers in U.S.A. have sought a new good quality Summer Apple, and the U.S.A. Bureau of Plant Industry now announces the Red Summer as a desirable red variety which ripens slightly ahead of the Yellow Transparent, a popular Summer variety in that country.

Red Summer is a large Apple of good quality for both cooking and dessert. It has a bright, attractive appearance and stands high Summer temperatures well. The tree is vigorous and bears early. The report says that it promises to be a popular commercial variety and is eulogistically quoted in the "American Fruit Grower."

YOUNG FARMERS' CLUBS.

Many New Clubs Formed.

Reports continue to come in of the extension of Young Farmers' activities in all parts of Victoria. Clubs at Dallas, Longwarry North, Tooradin, Leongatha, Mardan South, Cotswold, Barker's Creek, Ravenswood South, Mandurang and other districts all report progress in orchard and vegetable culture, calf clubs, poultry breeding and pasture studies. Members are enthusiastic about dairying at Mead.

A club has been asked for or new clubs formed at Leitchville, Gunbower, Dalton's Bridge, Horfield, Cohuna, Kerang East, Iona, Wonga Park, and other districts.

In fruit growing districts, officers of the Young Farmers' Clubs' association have given demonstrations and advice upon the subjects most interesting to members in the districts visited.

YOUNG FARMERS' SCHOOLS.

As representative of the versatility of interests covered by Young Farmers' Clubs, it is noted that at the special 10-day course offered in Melbourne recently sheep-shearing and wool quality were discussed by an officer of the Department of Agriculture, the value of natural tree shade and the conservation of such tried on the farm, the importance of keeping book records of costs and returns, and a system of budgeting by an officer of the State Savings Bank, identification of Clovers and grasses, hard woods and their uses, Flax growing, rotation cropping, ploughing and cultivation, and many other subjects of prime importance to young farmers.

The difficult thing is not to be with your friends when they are right but when they are wrong.

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News of the Month

INDIA WANTS OUR FRUIT IN EXCHANGE FOR COTTON.

In the new moves being made in India to increase the manufacture of war machines and ammunition, interchange of business between the British Dominions will be stimulated. India produces some of the world's best cotton and, according to a large mill-owner who recently visited Australia, India is anxious to exchange cotton for Australian dried fruits, wines and wool.

The European war has cost India the sale of approximately 1,250,000 bales of cotton which, under normal conditions, would have been shipped. With Japanese and English cotton not now as readily available to Australia, he submitted that trade between Australia and India could be increased to the mutual benefit of both countries. Whilst the trade in the export of fresh fruit to India had not developed to any great extent so far, there was no reason why Australian dried and canned fruits might not be more widely distributed in that country.

The Elections.

At the time of going to press there is still doubt as to the state of the parties in the House of Representatives. Apparently neither the U.A.P. nor Labor will have a working majority, hence the proposal from many quarters for a National Government.

The Apple and Pear industry is anxiously awaiting a pronouncement from the Government regarding the 1941 crop.
(E. H. Wragg, 8-10 Orr-street, Melbourne.)

MELBOURNE ROYAL SHOW.

The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria conducted its annual show on a modified scale at the Melbourne Exhibition Building at the end of September. The effort was appreciated.

The Apple and Pear Board put up a handsome display of Apples which attracted much public attention.

PERSONAL

Congratulations to **Mr. R. T. Wadeson** on his appointment as Senior Orchard Inspector, Department of Agriculture, Victoria, in place of Mr. C. F. Cole, retired. Mr. Wadeson was previously Orchard Inspector in the Mornington Peninsula district. He is a popular and efficient officer, and his promotion has met with widespread approval.

Mr. J. G. Baxter has been appointed Orchard Supervisor to the Mornington Peninsula (Victoria) in place of Mr. R. T. Wadeson, who has now been appointed Senior Orchard Inspector.

Mr. T. W. Pearce, previously on the staff of the Southern Victoria Pear Packing Co., has joined the Victorian Department of Agriculture as a Fruit Packing Instructor, and is doing good work.

Mr. J. L. Provan, B.Agr.Sc., Chief Horticultural Instructor (Vic.) visited the Murray River citrus area of South Australia during September.

Mr. Frank Maher, B.Agr.Sc., who is specialising on vegetable culture in the Victorian Horticultural Division, visited the vegetable growing areas in N.S.W. last month, in company with Mr. J. Douglass, of the Department of Agriculture in that State.

N.S.W. CHIEF BIOLOGIST.

Dr. H. J. Hynes Appointed.

After being deputy chief of the Biologist Branch, N.S.W. Department of Agriculture, for 13 years, **Dr. H. J. Hynes** was recently appointed Chief Biologist. He graduated from the University of Sydney with honors in 1919 and received his B.Ag.Sc. degree. In 1924 he visited U.S.A. under the Walter and Eliza Hall Research Fellowship to do research work on diseases of Wheat and was given his Master of Science degree by the University of Minnesota.

Amongst special research work which he has conducted in Australia are included cereal

PERSONAL—(Continued).

disease problems, problems affecting horticultural crops, glasshouse Tomatoes and the production of ergot as a war emergency project. He received his doctorate in agricultural science from the University of Sydney in 1936 and is a Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science, editor of the "Journal of Agricultural Science," and was appointed lecturer in plant pathology at the Sydney Technical College but did not accept that appointment.

Mrs. Weber, M.L.A., has been granted leave from her Parliamentary duties for a month, owing to illness. Her electorate includes many Metropolitan fruitgrowers. Mrs. Weber is one of the judges in the Apple and Pear Handwriting Competition.

Sympathy is expressed with **Mr. A. S. Harrison,** of the I.F.M. Co., Melbourne, in his illness. He has been in hospital for some weeks and is dangerously ill. Mr. Harrison is a member of the Victorian Apple and Pear Acquisition Committee.

OBITUARY.

Mr. Arthur Jones, who retired some years ago from the Victorian Department of Agriculture, recently passed away. Mr. Jones was well known and highly esteemed as an Orchard Supervisor. His work also was that of inspecting nurseries. He was a capable horticulturist and for many years delighted large audiences with colored slides on Orchids, Roses and many other flowers.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Griffith (N.S.W.) is another fruit growing area that is doing its bit. All members of the Griffith Rugby League football team who took part in last season's fixtures are now in camp or have gone overseas.

An ambulance, the gift of Shepparton fruitgrowers, was presented to the Red Cross on August 21. A march of soldiers preceded a specially arranged football match on the local oval.

McWilliams Wines Pty. Ltd., of Griffith, recently donated 1,000 cases of brandy to the Military Department for use in Military, Navy and Air Force hospitals.

The Commonwealth Dried Fruits Board will continue its grant of £1,500 towards research work by the C.S.I.R. Station.

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APPLES AND PEARS.

Prospects for Heavy Crops in 1941.

At the time of going to press, conditions are favorable for heavy crops of Apples and Pears throughout Australia.

Tasmania reports good blossoming.

In South Australia the prospects are excellent. The thrips menace did not materialise.

Victoria looks like having heavy crops at this stage. Harcourt anticipates a record production.

From New South Wales reports indicate satisfactory conditions so far. Mr. A. E. Herring (Batlow), writes under date September 30: "Apple and Pear prospects at this stage are good to heavy, but frost damage still possible." Reports from other N.S.W. centres are also good to heavy.

In Western Australia conditions are favorable for heavy crops of Apples and Pears.

Window displays of dried fruits in Adelaide resulted in increased sales, report retail grocers.

The difficulty in marketing many varieties of Apples this season demonstrates the need for reworking. Many of these varieties are simply not wanted by the trade or the public.

Good rains fell in various parts of Eastern Australia at the end of September, quickly improving the pastoral outlook.

Mainland growers who have inspected consignments of Tasmanian fruit in the Sydney and Melbourne markets, state that too many of the Apples are small and that Tasmanian growers should do more thinning out.

BLIGHT-RESISTANT PEARS.

A New Cross Variety.

FOR MANY YEARS U.S.A. has been investigating Pear varieties that will be resistant to blight. Experiments included the crossing of Kieffer with Seckel, Anjou and Bartlett, and the Bureau of Plant Industry now announces the Waite, named after M. B. Waite, of the Arlington (Virginia) Experiment Farm.

The Waite is an excellent cooking and canning Pear of dessert quality, almost as large as the Bartlett and almost free of grit cells, such as are found in the Kieffer. It is slightly more acid than the Bartlett and ripens about the same time as the Kieffer with a consistently high yield.

So far, it has not been tested in cold States, but experimental plantings have been made in southern States, and their acclimatisation is being watched.

Apple and Pear Industry

Question of 1941 Acquisition

BECAUSE of the total uncertainty of any substantial exports of Apples and Pears in 1941, the whole subject of visualising the industry as a whole from the Australian-wide point aspect comes up for review.

Hence the calling together of growers in the several States by the respective Ministers for Agriculture, culminating in the Canberra conference.

Then followed the consideration of the conference proposals by the Agricultural Council, and the discussions between that Council and the Australian Apple and Pear Marketing Committee.

Negotiations are still proceeding.

:: :: ::

Information as to one stage of procedure was released to the press in N.S.W. (though apparently not in the other States), and this caused confusion in the minds of many growers.

The details as published at length by a contemporary in N.S.W., were incorrectly stated to be the statement submitted by the Apple and Pear Marketing Committee.

The proposals submitted by the Marketing Committee provided for more generous payments to growers than last season. Compensation was sought for losses on export. However, these proposals were deemed to be unacceptable because of constitutional difficulties.

The Government made counter proposals, and the information published by our contemporary were the proposals of the Federal Government which had been amended by the Australian Marketing Committee in an endeavor to bring them as nearly as possible to the original proposals submitted by the Canberra conference.

Federal Governments' Proposals as Amended by the Australian Apple and Pear Marketing Committee.

IN THE LIGHT of the publication in N.S.W. of the present stage of the negotiations, we give hereunder a summary of the Commonwealth Government's proposals as amended by the Apple and Pear Marketing Committee as a basis of discussion by the several States, in the Committee's endeavor to bring the scheme as nearly into line with the Canberra Conference suggestions as was possible within the framework of these proposals:—

It is assumed that the production of Apples will be approximately 14 - 15,000,000 bushels, made up as follows:—

(a) Suitable for marketing, i.e., extra fancy, fancy, and good grades .	11,000,000
(b) Less suitable for marketing — good and domestic grades	1-2,000,000
(c) Fruit of quality so low as to make it unmarketable except for juice production	2,000,000
	14-15,000,000

Included in the foregoing is the unmarketable fruit produced but which is never normally sold.

The marketing proposals refer to 11,000,000 bushels. The normal consumption in Australia is around 6,000,000 bushels, which may be increased to 7,000,000, leaving a surplus of 4-5,000,000 bushels.

The surplus above the needs of the Australian market must ultimately be disposed of thus:

(1) Export, which is an unknown quantity.

(2) Production of dried Apples, canned Apple pies, juice and cider. Juice and cider production absorbs chiefly low quality fruit, and does not offer a substantial solution of the surplus problem. Dried and pie Apples may utilise 500,000 bushels during 1941.

(3) Charity distribution.

(4) Surplus, for which there may be no use of any kind.

Every effort to be made to export the maximum quantity.

Any acquisition plan must apply to the whole crop.

Compensation to be on a bare fruit basis in respect only of approved sizes; quality and sizes delivered in accordance with directions. Such payment to take the form of advances after such deliveries, and a subsequent distribution from any surplus market returns. Such compensation to apply similarly to Apples of approved varieties, qualities and sizes, delivery of which has not been directed by the Marketing Committee.

"Good" grade qualifying for the compensation to be determined as 25 per cent. of the quantities of Extra Fancy, and Fancy qualifying for compensation.

Varieties to be grouped as regards commercial value, as shown in Statement "A". These classifications are in respect of "Extra Fancy" and "Fancy" grades, and "Good" grade fruit of varieties in Group 1 will rank as Group 2, and of varieties in Group 2 as Group 3, and "Good" grade fruit of the varieties in Group 3 will be excluded from the classification. (Note: The grade standards laid down in the 1940 Regulations will probably require redefinition on more stringent lines.)

It is proposed that no compensation be paid on varieties not included in Statement "A". In the interests of the present growers of these excluded varieties it is desirable that the States concerned should put into operation plans for reworking or eliminating all trees of these varieties. The total number of trees in this category is about 160,000. These trees are principally in N.S.W., Victoria, Tasmania, and South Australia, in that order.

The Commonwealth Government will not make advances to growers prior to the compensation advances referred to above. Should advances be necessary to growers for cultural operations, the State Governments will be in a position to make advances in respect of them. The Commonwealth Government to consider any reasonable plan for safeguarding the financial interests of State Governments when making compensation payments to growers.

In determining the compensation (both advance and subsequent proceeds distribution) for the various varieties of Apples, the Marketing Committee to operate under a system of appraisement. Differentiation will be made as between the three groups of varieties. All varieties in Group 3 to receive a common rate of compensation at the minimum figure; those in Group 2 will receive a common rate of compensation higher than Group 3; and those in Group 1 will receive a higher rate of compensation than Groups 2 and 3. In respect of varieties in Group 1, provision is also to be made for extra compensation in respect of some lots in certain circumstances (particularly where the anticipated market returns for such are considered to justify their appraisement at higher rates).

Throughout the year arrangements to be made for publicity for fresh Apples, Apple juices and other types of processed Apples.

The exact returns to growers under the proposed marketing plan for 1940-41 harvest cannot be forecast. They will depend not only on the success of the sale of Apples on the Australian market, but on the returns from export.

Marketing of Pears.

Pears will be sold by the Marketing Committee in conjunction with the marketing of Apples. The same general principles to apply. It may be assumed that the production of Pears suitable for marketing will be about 2,400,000 bushels. Of this quantity approximately 900,000 bushels will be pro-

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New South Wales: Lanes Ltd., 69 Abercrombie St., Sydney.
Queensland: A.C.F. and Shirleys Fertilizers Ltd., Brisbane.
South Australia: George Wills & Co. Ltd., Gilbert House, Gilbert Place, Adelaide.
Western Australia: F. H. Faulding & Co. Ltd., 313 Murray Street, Perth.

Works: PRAHRAN GROVE, ELSTERNWICK, VICTORIA — L 1468.

cessed, leaving 1,500,000 bushels for sale in the export and Australian markets as fresh fruit. It is expected that 850,000 bushels will be sold in Australia as fresh fruit and that 650,000 bushels will be available for export.

For the purpose of marketing, Pears will be classified into groups in the same manner as Apples. The varieties comprised in each group are shown in Statement B. Group 3 will receive the minimum compensation advance; Group 2 will receive a premium over Group 3, and Group 1 a premium over Groups 2 and 3. It is proposed that "Good" grade fruit in Groups 1 and 2 will rank as "Fancy" in the next lower grade for compensation advance; and that in Group 3 there will be no advance on "Good" grade.

No compensation will be paid on varieties of Pears not included in Statement B. In respect of these excluded varieties, responsibility for re-working or eliminating the trees is estimated, roughly, at 150,000, but the actual figures for each State are not at present available.

Summary.

As stated, the foregoing were not the proposals of the Marketing Committee, but were the proposals of the Federal Government as amended by the Marketing Committee in the effort to bring them nearer to the original proposals of the Canberra Conference.

The Apple and Pear Marketing Committee has been alert to secure for growers the best terms possible.

The unit basis of 6d. has been most strongly recommended.

It was evident from letters sent to the public press that much confusion existed in the minds of growers. Letters were published to the effect that the 1941 plans included the "paying from 10d. a case for Apples and 1/- a case for Pears, to the top price of 2/11 for Victorian Fancy Grade Apples."

A deputation waited on the Victorian Minister for Agriculture on September 4. Growers requested the release of information regarding the plans for 1941, but the Minister replied that negotiations were proceeding, and that by arrangement the release of the information would be by the Minister for Commerce.

Growers were divided on the question of acquisition for 1941. The Minister stated that the acquisition was a war measure, and designed to be of service to growers in the present national emergency.

ACQUISITION PLANS OPPOSED.

Wantirna Answers "Statesman."

The Editor, "Fruit World."

Sir,

Will you kindly allow me to reply to a letter signed "Statesman," which appeared in the September issue of your paper.

"Statesman" asks readers "to imagine the chaos, had no control scheme been in operation" last year. Imagination seems to me to be the key-note of "Statesman's" letter.

Personally I prefer facts, and this one should prove all-sufficient.

The Minister of Commerce has stated that the total quantity of Apples received by the Board last season was approximately 6,830,000 bushels, of which 1,437,000 bushels were exported. This clearly shows that no real problem existed, as only 5,393,000 c/s. were left for home consumption.

In dealing with next year we can only suppose a case because export space is such an unknown quantity.

Therefore I will deal only with the prospective crop. Here are a few points to consider. Orchards were poorly worked, and so suffered terribly during the exceptionally hot dry Summer. Hundreds of acres of trees throughout Australia have been rooted out and acres more have been very heavily pruned to reduce crops and so save manure bills. These facts lead me to believe that next season's crop will not total a great number of cases.

In reference to marketing I am convinced from personal observations of the Board's operations to date, that any marketing scheme which has no competition to meet will never operate to the best interests of all concerned, perhaps more especially if it is backed by public money.

Yours, etc.,

G. HANDASYDE.

Hon. Sec. of the Wantirna and Vermont Branch of the Fruitgrowers' and Primary Producers Defence League of Australia.

22/9/40.

CANNED APPLE JUICE.

America has already popularised all forms of fruit juices and now comes an announcement that canned Apple juice has been added to the long list of fruit by-products. Dr. W. V. Cruess, of the California College of Agriculture, believes that Apple juice will become quite as popular as canned Tomato and Pineapple juices as a table beverage. Several canneries are already processing Apple juice and by coating the cans with heavy enamel it is found that the natural flavor of the fruit is retained. Without the enamel in the tins, the juice will deteriorate rapidly.

THE way insects rob an orchardist of his profits is "over-the-fence"! While there are some things, such as climatic conditions, that you cannot control, insects are a problem that you CAN do something about. The one best way is to kill them before they become insects, i.e. when they are still in the egg. Oil is an ovicide and Gargoyle is the best brand of White Oil you can use. With a control program while the trees are in leaf, grubs and insects will be kept in check, your fruit will be cleaner, and, as you know, "the less the blemish the higher the grade and price." Use only the highest quality spraying oil to "Stop These Orchard Thieves!"

Gargoyle WHITE Spraying Oil

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(INCORPORATED IN AUSTRALIA)

SP401

APPLE & PEAR INDUSTRY—QUESTION OF 1941 ACQUISITION—(Continued).

Marketing of Pears and Apples

STATEMENT "A."

CLASSIFICATION OF VARIETIES OF APPLES FOR APPRAISEMENT.

GROUP 1.	GROUP 2.	GROUP 3.
Extra Fancy and Fancy.	**Extra Fancy and Fancy.**	**Extra Fancy and Fancy.**
Cleopatra (Tas., Vic., S.A. and W.A. only).	Australian Beauty.	Alexander (Emperor).
Cox's O.P.	Cleopatra (N.S.W. and Q'ld. only).	Ben Davis.
Delicious and Lalla.	French Crab 2½in. min.	Buncombe or Red Winter Pearmain.
Democrat.	Glengyle Red and Romes (W.A., Tas. and Q'ld.).	Pomme de Neige.
Granny.	McIntosh Red (Vic., S.A., W.A., Tas.).	Ranelagh.
Jonathan.	Scarlet Nonpariel or Scarlet Pearmain.	Pioneer.
Yates.	Statesman (W.A. and Tas.).	Schroeder.
Crofton.	Stayman Winesap (Vic., S.A., W.A. and Tas. only).	Wellington Pippin.
Gravenstein.	Stewart's Seedling—Ballarat, 2½in. minimum).	Yapeen.
Summer Strawberry (S.A. only).	Tasman's Pride.	Coleman.
McIntosh Red (N.S.W. and Q'ld. only).	Worcester Pearmain.	Auradell.
Stayman Winesap (N.S.W. and Q'ld.).	Alfriston, 2½in. minimum.	Crow Egg.
Statesman (Vic., S.A., N.S.W. and Q'ld. only).	Geeveston Fanny.	Esopus Spitzenberg.
Glengyle Red and Rome Beauty (N.S.W., Vic. and S.A. only).	Golden Delicious.	King David.
Dougherty.	King Cole.	King Pippin.
Legana.	London Pippin, 2½in. minimum.	Newtown Pippin.
Beauty Bath.	Duke Clarence.	Ribston Pippin.
Peasgood Non Such.	Dunn's.	Strawberry Pippin.
Williams' Favorite.	Nickajack.	"Good" grade of Group 2 varieties.
Twenty Ounce.	Prince Alfred.	
Willie Sharp.	Rokewood.	
Carrington.	Stone Pippin.	
Kirk's Seedling.	Sturmer.	
Mobb's Ryal.	"Good" grade of Group 1 varieties.	
Trivett.		
Cowell's Red.		
Lord Nelson.		
Lady Daly.		
Warner's King.		

STATEMENT "B."

CLASSIFICATION OF VARIETIES OF PEARS FOR APPRAISEMENT.

GROUP 1.	GROUP 1.	GROUP 2.	GROUP 3.
Beurre d'Anjou.	**Canning.**	Beurre Bosc.	Keiffer.
Doyenne du Comice.	Williams, Bartlett or Duchess (not Duchess d'Angouleme).	Beurre Hardy.	Clapps Favorite.
Josephine.		Glou Morceau.	Giblins Seedling.
Packham's Triumph.		Madame Cole.	Beurre Easter.
Winter Cole.		Passan de Portugal or Lemon Bergamot.	Black Achan (Vic. only, 2½in. minimum).
Winter Nelis.			
Williams, Bartlett or Duchess (not Duchess d'Angouleme), W.A. only.			

STATEMENT "C."

INITIAL ADVANCE TO GROWERS, ON DELIVERY.

Group.	Units.	At 5d.	At 6d.
1. Queensland	10	4/2	5/–
N.S.W.—Delicious	10	4/2	5/–
Other Varieties	8	3/4	4/–
Victoria	7	2/11	3/6
Other States	6	2/6	3/–
2. All States	4	1/8	2/–
All States	2	10d.	1/–

The "Unit Basis."

ON THE SUBJECT of the unit basis, an explanation was given at the recent conference called in Sydney by the N.S.W. Minister for Agriculture (Major A. D. Reid).

Owing to the very wide differences in values obtainable by some States for some varieties, probable pool earnings were considered as a factor in setting up an appraisement system of units for compensation. Whereas under the Federal Constitution it was not possible for one State to receive favored treatment as against another, the unit system of calculation was deemed to be both equitable and constitutional, being thus capable of adjusting the differences referred to. These units were set out as a basis for calculation at both 5d. and 6d., and had reference to the varieties according to their groupings. It was proposed that N.S.W. and Queensland should receive the maximum number of units.

The prices as represented by these units were on the bare fruit basis. Presentation and marketing costs would be financed by the Board.

PATENTS
GEORGE A. U'REN
PATENT ATTORNEY
"HEATY HOUSE." 499 LITTLE COLLINS ST. MELBOURNE.

N.S.W. GROWERS CONSIDER 1941 PROPOSALS.

A conference of N.S.W. Apple and Pear growers convened by the Minister for Agriculture (Major A. D. Reid) was held at Sydney at the end of August. Delegates were present from Armidale, Batlow, Bathurst, Orange, Young, Wedderburn, Oakdale, Camden, Penrose, Goulburn, Griffith, Yenda, Leeton, Hartley, and Lavington.

The Minister stated that the present acquisition plans were a great improvement on previous proposals. Careful consideration was needed, otherwise N.S.W. might be charged with being unreasonable.

Mr. H. V. Smith (Batlow) stated that the regulations as amended by the Apple and Pear Board provided for a higher blemish tolerance than previously, which made the position better under the unit system. He stated he believed the proposals for marketing the 1941 crop covered the cost of production, and in view of present world conditions, very much more could not be expected.

A resolution was submitted: "That, subject to the Acquisition scheme being enforced by the Commonwealth Government, the scheme as submitted be accepted as a basis for discussion."

This was amended to read: "That this meeting desires to express its opposition to acquisition, but in view of the state of international affairs and as it is considered by the Government that acquisition is in the interests of the Commonwealth as a whole, the scheme as submitted be accepted as a basis for discussion."

The amendment was carried.

Resolutions as follow were carried, suggesting amendment of details of scheme:

"That the Apple and Pear Marketing Committee be reconstituted to consist of a Commonwealth Government representative and a growers' representative from each State, the Committee to elect its own Chairman."

"That the State Committee consist of four growers' representatives and one Government nominee, with power to co-opt marketing representatives."

Varieties, Units.

That "Good" Grade of Group 1 receive increase in units on same differentiation basis in Group 2 as in Group 1. Queensland 8 units; N.S.W.—Del. 8, other varieties 6 units; Victoria 5 units; other States 4 units.

In the event of (c) being agreed to N.S.W. "Good" Grade Del. and Granny would receive advances at the rate of 10 and 8 units respectively.

(b) That the varieties Foster, Lord Wolseley and Elsie Grant be included in Grade 3 and the variety Buncombe be moved to

Question of 1941 Acquisition (cont'd)

Grade 2. (Latter in respect of N.S.W. only.)

(c) That Del. and Granny be raised, Del. to 12 and Granny to 10 units (in respect of N.S.W. only).

That 6d. be the unit value.

(b) That the preliminary advance be paid within fourteen days of delivery.

Pears.

A request was made that Howell Pears be listed in Group 3.

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It was decided to request that if a normal crop should fail to set, provision be made to review the necessity for Acquisition.

Compensation for hail damage was requested.

Mr. E. W. Hedditch, Portland, Vic., wrote to the press during September, commending the Apple and Pear Acquisition plan as a war time emergency measure and urging continuance during 1941.

This brought forth a prompt reply from Messrs. C. Honeybun and E. W. Buttle, of the Fruitgrowers' Defence League, condemning the acquisition proposals and requesting freedom to trade.

Mr. J. M. Ely, of Harcourt, writing to the "Fruit World" under date September 14, states: "Growers generally favor some form of control for the coming season, but feel that many improvements and economies are necessary on last year's pool. Growers also feel that some lead should now be given to them for next season. If it is likely that any varieties of Apples or Pears should be unsaleable, growers should now be advised so that same can be cut off instead of having to go to the expense of spraying them. Every economy must be exercised in the growing and marketing for some time to come."

W.A. FAVORS ACQUISITION.

Mr. J. McN. Martin, President of the W.A. Fruitgrowers' Association, writes under date September 20:—

"All growers, with the exception of odd cranks, are in favor of last year's scheme, and consider it imperative to have a similar scheme this year."

"VALLO" SPRAYS

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Arsenate of Lead
Paste or Powder. Package, 56 lb., 28 lb., and 4 lb.

Codlin Moth Tree Bands
Chemically Treated. 200 ft. Rolls.

Lime Sulphur Wash
Minimum Polysulphide Sulphur, 20 per cent. Package, 44 Gal., 4 Gal.

Copper Sulphate Neige
98/99 per cent. Package, 1 cwt. and 56 lb.

Nicotine Sulphate 40%
Guaranteed 40 per cent. Package, 1 Gal. ½ Gal.

Prepared White Oil
89 per cent. Mineral Oil. Package, 44 Gal., 4 Gal.

Colloidal Sulphur
50 per cent. Sulphur, Weight for Weight. Package, Cases, 8 x 5 lb. Jars.

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Deputation to Commerce Minister

Defence League Requests No Acquisition for 1941 Crops.

Representatives of the Fruit Growers and Primary Producers' Defence League met the Minister for Commerce (Mr. Cameron) in Melbourne on September 27, emphasising the desire of Victorian growers to be allowed to market their own fruit.

League officials stated they did not seek any assistance from the Commonwealth Government. They suggested that if the Government desired to assist the industry it should compensate Tasmanian and West Australian growers for their surplus fruit, but leave the eastern States to market their own fruit. By this means the Government would be materially aiding the industry while eliminating the dissatisfaction that now existed as the result of compulsory acquisition.

Representatives of the League stressed the resentment felt by Victorian growers to compulsory acquisition of their crops, and asserted that, as far as this State was concerned a marketing scheme similar to that in operation last season had no chance of success.

In reply, the Minister stated that no decision had yet been reached as to whether acquisition should operate in respect of the 1941 fruit crop or not, and proposals formulated by the Apple and Pear Marketing Committee would be further considered at a conference between Commonwealth and States. If, however, it were decided to compulsorily acquire and market next season's crop, the scheme would apply to all States. He promised, however, to advise the League immediately any decision was made.

Mr. Cameron expressed the view that the refusal of the growers to co-operate had contributed to the failure of the 1940 acquisition scheme, and added that, should acquisition be decided upon in respect of the 1941 crop, growers who did not obey the law would be prosecuted with the utmost vigor.

"FRUIT WORLD" APPRECIATED.

The Editor,
Sir,

During the years I have been subscribing to the "Fruit World" an enormous amount of valuable information has been published which I have found of great value in my work.

All the numbers of the paper have been saved and constitute a very good reference library.

Thanking you and wishing you every success during these difficult times,

Yours, etc.,
(Signed) A. J. Phillips.
Serpentine, W.A. (29/7/40).

New South Wales News & Notes

The Murrumbidgee Irrigation Areas

Heavy Flowering of Peaches and Nectarines — Extensive Planting of Fruit Trees — Weed Control — Wild Ducks Damage Rice Farms — Visit by Victorian Fruitgrowers.

(By Our Special Correspondent.)

THE dry conditions of the weather continued throughout August, with only a few meagre showers of a few points of rain, and although the days have been very warm for this time of year, the nights were very cold, and during the first few days of September frosts occurred, which, although slight, were quite sufficient to cut a good many of the Almond crops, which had already set, and cause fear to those citrus growers whose trees were showing an early blossoming.

The Research Stations at both Leeton and Griffith registered up to three degrees of frost, and after the September 5, the weather took up somewhat, and a warmer burst of weather prevailed until the 14th, when again the thermometer fell and a further three degrees of frost were registered. This cut some of the citrus blossom and new season's growth, but most of the trees were not out in flower to any great extent. Apricots in some places have also suffered, but so far the Peaches have not been noticed to have suffered very much.

On the 13th, 15 points of rain were also registered, and this may have helped somewhat in averting the danger to the fruit which was still covered by the flower sheath.

The first irrigation of the season was eagerly availed of by most growers who feared that owing to the exceptional dryness of the land, frost damage might be very severe, and there are some very marked portions of some fruit farms, where the land was moist that damage to the trees was negligible, while on rows almost alongside that had missed out in the last irrigation of the previous season, the damage was severe.

Peaches and Nectarines have flowered heavily, and also Prunes, but Apricots have appeared somewhat irregular in their blossoming, and on many farms the buds appear to still be only half open, while limbs are in full flower on other trees.

Probably the long dry Winter has caused a retarding in sap flow, which has been responsible for this irregular flowering.

This circumstance has been noticed in other years, but at the time of ripening there appeared to be little difference in the ripening of the fruit.

It is as yet too early to predict what the crops are likely to be, as if the dry weather continues there are likely to be still more frosts, but the irrigation may cause a resistance to frost damage, and in some cases may delay blossoming with good effect.

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Considerable activity in replanting has occurred at both ends of these Areas, and Inspectors have had an exceptionally busy time inspecting the large consignments of trees that have arrived in the district. At Leeton approximately 23,000 trees have been received, most of which were Peaches, with about 5,000 citrus trees also included, and at the Griffith end a far larger number of trees have been handled.

The severe damage caused by the wet Winter of 1939 is reflected in these replacements, but whereas many thousands of citrus trees died out, some growers are replacing these with deciduous trees of various varieties, and the following list of trees show the diversity of plantings, and types that are most favored: 21,500 Peaches (mostly Golden Queen and Phillips Cling); 5,400 Apricots (Trevatts); 2,400 Nectarines (Goldmine); 1,800 Plums (mostly Angelina Burdett and President); 4,000 Pears (mostly Williams), 1,000 Packham Triumph; 4,000 Quinces (mostly Smyrna, Champion and Van Diemen); 2,000 Almonds (Chellaston and Johnstone's Prolific): with a few trees of various varieties brought the total up to over 42,000.

A large amount of citrus trees are also likely to be planted, and the Griffith Producers' Co. have over 17,000 on order, while local and other nurseries will bring the total up to fully 25,000. The choice seems largely for Valencias, with Lemons in good demand, but Washington Navels appear not to be so much favored as in former years of planting.

Queensland has supplied large quantities of trees, and if the quality is maintained nothing finer in trees has been seen for years, and the Benyenda Nurseries are keeping up to their reputation for supplying first-grade stock.

A close lookout is kept by the Inspectors, as on former occasions trees have been received from some nurseries, with the dreaded bindweed packed round the roots, and as this weed has assumed menacing proportions on some farms on the Area a very close inspection is necessary to prevent the introduction of this or any other noxious weeds, which may not be regarded so seriously in the other districts as they are when growing under irrigation conditions.

Nut grass is another pest that is often introduced, and when once this gets a hold it is a very difficult weed to eradicate. The special Weeds Officer of the Department of Agriculture (Mr. K. G. Carn) is much concerned with the spread of bindweed on portions of these areas, and this, together with hoary cress, and Johnson grass, is receiving his close attention.

Some years ago, the "Cumbungi" or bullrush was heavily infesting the irrigation and drainage channels of the Area, and was regarded as a very great menace through its rapid spread, but the matter was tackled by the Officers of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, and from their experiments this pest is now well under control, and the position is regarded as satisfactory.

Several experiments to combat these weeds are being tried out by Mr. Carn and Mr. Horth, Fruit Instructor of the Department of Agriculture, and under their able supervision and control, some means will undoubtedly be found to combat if not eradicate these particular pests, which, if left uncontrolled, would assume very alarming proportions.

The fullest co-operation will be accorded to these officers by the members of a newly-appointed Committee, which was selected at a meeting of the Wade, Willimbong and Carathool Shires, the Department of Agriculture, Rural Band, and Irrigation Commission. Officers of all these bodies will keep a keen lookout for any signs of these pests and will immediately report the appearance of any fresh patches that they may note in their rounds of the farms they visit.

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Another feature of the long frosty Winter has been the difficulty of the District Packing Sheds to obtain an adequate supply of fruits for export requirements, and as a very keen lookout is kept on all export fruit by the Fruit Officers in Sydney, every care is being taken to ascertain that no affected fruit is packed, but even under the careful supervision that is maintained, some get through to the ship's side, and have been rejected. Some farms are far more badly affected than others, and aspect, depth of soil, moisture content of the soil, and cultural practices are all important factors in the prevention of frost damage, while a few growers have also used oil burners for protection.

Another menace of quite a different character is that to which Rice farmers are subjected, i.e., the increase of wild ducks. It has been claimed that the damage done by these birds has become so serious that on the recommendation of the General Purposes Committee of the Wade Shire, the Council requested the Chief Secretary's Department to revoke the proclamation which made Lake Wyangan, a bird sanctuary.

As this small lake comes within one mile radius of a public school, there appears to be some difficulty in declaring it an open place, and therefore it is likely to still remain a sanctuary at which shooters will look with envious eyes at the large flocks of ducks that frequent its waters, from which these nightly raids are made on the settlers' Rice paddocks. As this is really a very serious matter, it will probably be again taken up with the Chief Secretary's Department.

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Some excitement was caused on these Areas when it became known that a large internment camp was to be constructed at Hay. Numbers of men from both Leeton and Griffith and adjacent towns were transported to Hay to assist in the preparation of this camp, and when it is ready for occupation by the Internees, it will be guarded by a garrison battalion selected specially for the purpose from among those who volunteer for the service. Many returned men have already offered their services, and men up to 55 years of age if physically fit may volunteer for this duty.

Several trains full of internees arrived in Hay during the week and they had a very dusty

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Clean, healthy, true-to-name, and guaranteed free from insect pests. Carefully packed and despatched to any address. Catalogue free on request to
C. J. GOODMAN
Picnic Point Nurseries, Bairnsdale, Vic.

Box Nailing Machines

Offered subject to sales.
2 Doig (American-made) Nailers, 6 tracks, closed back type.
Old pattern but in good second-hand working order.
For Prompt Sale at £50 each.
Further particulars from—

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P.O. Box. 9, North Melbourne, N 1

Graders and Packing Equipment of all kinds, new and second-hand, wanted and for sale.
Inquiries Invited.

reception, as Hay was in the throes of a very bad dust storm.

The advent of this large camp should mean an added prosperity to the district owing to the large amount of foodstuffs and vegetables that will be required to maintain this camp, and the Hay Irrigation Area may yet again come back to a large production of root crops and other necessary commodities where it had fallen from a fairly large fruit producing area to mainly dairying.

Most of the old and at one time very fine orchards have been destroyed, but there are still to be seen some very old fruit trees among the paddocks.

An interested party of 20 fruit growers from the Mildura and Merbein districts (Victoria) visited these Areas during August to investigate the various problems which affect these Settlements.

They were accompanied on their tour of the Griffith district by Mr. C. Lasscock, of the Rural Bank, and Mr. Gerald Beverley, Senior Fruit Instructor of the S.A. Department of Agriculture, who also travelled with the party to the Stanbridge and Leeton Areas.

A very instructive morning was spent at the Commonwealth Research Station, where the visitors were received by Mr. Eric West, the Officer in charge, who explained to the visitors the various works of investigation that were being undertaken by the Officers of his Staff. Mr. Pennefather explained the methods of the application of water to the various types of soils, and the methods adopted to take accurate measurements of such irrigation supplies, while Dr. Joan Hearman conducted the visitors round the field experiments with citrus stock trials, and various other items of interest which were under her immediate control and supervision.

The various beds of seedlings, Sweet Orange, Seville Orange and Wild Lemon were inspected with great interest, and the examination of the growing roots of an Orange tree viewed through the glass side of a pit which was made alongside the tree, was of special interest to the party. By this means the actual root development can be seen, and an accurate record kept as to when the first fresh root growth commences.

The Griffith Producers' Packing Shed with its large new grader, was also visited, and a comprehensive tour of inspection was made under the guidance of Messrs. Mallinson and Morley.

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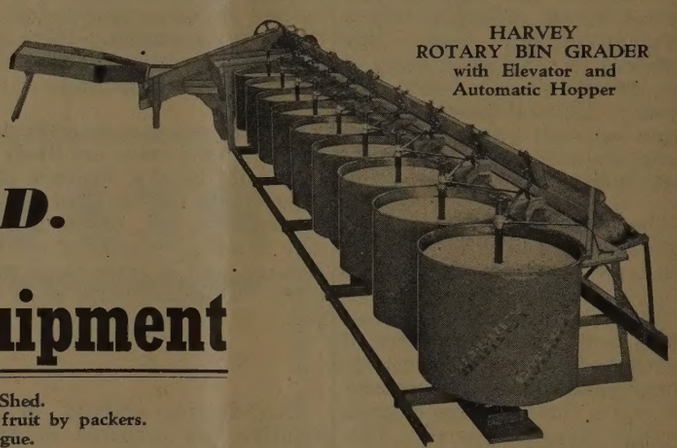

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Mills and Presses for the Extraction of Fruit Juice

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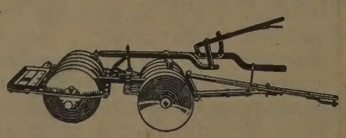

"HARVEY" PATENT OFFSET TANDEM DISC CULTIVATOR: Cultivates right up to the butts of the trees or vines while the Tractor is driven right out in the middle of the row.

Proved to be an excellent machine for deeply cultivating heavy irrigation land.

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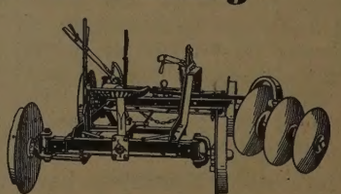
"HARVEY" 3-FURROW TRACTOR POWER LIFT HB7 MOULDBOARD ORCHARD PLOW: A one-man job. Built in sizes from two to six furrows.

THE BEETLEBACK cuts out all hand working under citrus trees, and keeps the ground level.
It lifts up the branches, cultivates under them, and gently replaces them on the ground.

THE "HARVEY" LANCIA DISC PLOW is designed specially for the hardest kind of plowing. Low overhead clearance for low overhanging trees. Can be racked over for both plowing close up to and away from the trees. Equipped with the famous **"HARVEY"** Power Lift or Screw Lifts which are operated from the seat of the Tractor.



"HARVEY" built "PETTY" PLOW: Plows out strips which have not been plowed for years. Cuts through couch grass with the greatest of ease. Also plows up to the trees and in the centre. **DISC CULTIVATING GANG** can be attached in place of Disc Plow Gang.

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S.A.—Gilbert, Sharp & Bishop, Rundle St., East Adelaide.
W.A.—Paterson & Co. Ltd., St. Georges Terrace, Perth.
Southern Tasmania—Southern Implement & Machinery Coy., Market Place, Hobart.
Queensland: Buzacott (Queensland) Ltd., 443 Adelaide St., Brisbane.
S.A.—Oole & Woodham, Box 12, Renmark.

NEW SOUTH WALES—(Continued).

The next day an early start was made, and the party pushed on to see the Leeton end of the Area. At Stanbridge the visitors were met by Mr. Norris, who owns one of the finest citrus groves in the district, and the visitors were much impressed with some of the citrus in this Area which they stated was the best they had seen. A particularly fine area of soil is included in the Stanbridge portion of the Area, and appears to yield good crops of very fine quality fruit.

Mr. Letheron, Chairman of Directors of the Leeton Co-operative Cannery, and Mr. Williams, the General Manager, conducted the visitors through this large and progressive plant, and the extent of the operations which were conducted astonished the party. Further extensions are contemplated, and the company may shortly extend its operations to include the processing of tinned meats, soups and other items which will keep the plant running throughout the year.

The expansion which has already been made, and the extension of the operations is a great tribute to the foresight and ability of the manager, Mr. Williams, and there is no doubt that in time Leeton will become one of the most important cannery centres of the State for all kinds of foodstuffs.

Visits to the farms of Messrs. Braund and J. Ward, at Griffith, and to that of Mr. Heatherington, at Leeton, where some of the largest Valencia trees on the Area are situated. These trees, the visitors stated, were the largest and best bearing trees for their age that they had ever seen, and the fact that the land on which they were grown had previously been a lucerne patch for many years is probably attributable to their remarkable size and productivity. Some years ago two heavily laden trees on this farm produced 71 packed cases of fruit, and from the present appearance of the grove their life is likely to be long and their productivity continued.

The courtesy of Mr. Alan Cameron, who organised the visiting party, in sending a letter of appreciation of the courtesy the visitors had received, to both local newspapers, was much appreciated.

PRIMITIVE CONDITIONS AT DARLING HARBOR, N.S.W.

Despite many complaints to the Sydney Railway Department authorities, the unloading conditions at the Darling Harbor goods yard remain primitive. There is no unloading platform, no shelter from the weather and no lighting.

These conditions are a disgrace to Australia's largest city: they would constitute a disgrace to any civilised community.

CROP PROSPECTS FOR ORANGE DISTRICT.

The indications are for a good crop right through, in some portions of the district, late frosts have caused some damage, but to what extent, it is yet too early to say.

We have had a very beneficial rain of two inches, which was badly needed and should help considerably in the setting of the fruit. At present only the stone fruits are in bloom, the pome fruits just coming out.

Cherries: Early Lyons, Napoleon, Florence, St. Margaret and Black Republican, good to heavy.

Plums: Angelina, Ponds, Grand Duke and President heavy.

Apples: Granny, Del., Jons., Romes, Demo., good to heavy.

Pears: Williams, Packhams, W. Coles and B. Bosc, good to heavy.

It is yet too early to state what the Grapes will be like.—W. E. West, 24/9/40.

EXPORT APPLE COMPETITIONS.

Sydney Show Awards.

The N.S.W. Royal Agricultural Society recently announced the following awards for export Apples. The competition covers three case lots, one case is judged at the Sydney Royal Show, and the other two cases are shipped to London and Judged there. The exhibitor scoring the highest number of points at both judgings is therefore given the award.

(1) Mr. P. M. Baaner, Bonnie Blink, Little Hartley, with 183 points out of a possible 200.

In Sydney his exhibit gained 85 points out of 100 and 98 points in London.

(2) Messrs. Morris and Sons, Haven Park, Tallong, 174 points —London 92, Sydney 82.

Other placings were: Mr. N. W. Ross, Lorraine Orchard, Mullion Creek, 171 (London 86, Sydney 85), 3rd; Mr. J. S. Cripps, Oakdale, Little Hartley 167 (92, 75), 4th; and Mr. W. S. Cripps, Cranbrook Orchard, Little Hartley 166 (94, 72), 5th.

GOOD YEAR FOR LEETON CO-OP.

Increased Profit Report.

A net profit of £725 for the year ending June 30, 1940, is reported in the annual report of the Leeton Fruitgrowers' Co-operative Society Ltd. This represents £205 in excess of last year's profit. Although turnover was slightly lower, the margin of profit was higher and the per case profit was the greatest reported for some time past. The auditor, Mr. W. J. McCarthy, reported the year as eminently satisfactory.

A typical illustration of a well kept citrus grove.

APPLE JUICES

Standardisation and Publicity

Research work of an important character is being conducted by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research at its Laboratory at Homebush, N.S.W.

Just at present, because of the urgency of the matter, Apple juices are being closely studied; it is noted that flavors vary according to varieties. Some blends are excellent. Research has shown that Apple juice could be put up in lacquered tins, in order to make the product a grocer's line.

Probably more has been done in the United States than in any other country to develop fruit juice consumption, and naturally the public is recognising the palatability and other virtues of Apple juice. Efficient methods of extraction and packing are being continually improved and extensive publicity is assisting in increasing consumption.

In an effort to overcome decreased exports of New Zealand Apples during the war, the Dominion sent Mr. Neville Wright, of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, to America and England to study the extraction of Apple juice with a view to developing that industry in New Zealand. He reported that the consumption of unfermented Apple juice in Canada had risen from 70,000 gals. in 1938 to 1,500,000 gals. in 1939, and it is estimated that it will reach 300,000,000 gallons this year, largely resulting from extensive publicity by the Canadian Government.

:: :: ::

Mr. H. V. Smith, of Batlow, N.S.W., is in close touch with Dr. Vickery and Mr. Lynch at the Homebush Laboratory in regard to these matters. Appreciation is expressed for their fine efforts.

:: :: ::

It is believed that adequate publicity would result in a largely increased sale of Apple juices. This has been the experience in Canada and other parts of the world.

But before publicising Apple juice in Australia, standards would be necessary and it is hoped that these will be defined when a definitely forward move could be made.

:: :: ::

There are several high-grade Apple juices now on the Australian market.

A reader on the Mornington Peninsula, Victoria, advises having obtained Apple juice in a 13 oz. bottle from Morris's Melray Store in Bay-street, Frankston. The label states:

"This Apple juice contains the following food essentials: Vitamins A, B, C and G, phosphorus, pectin, calcium and iron.

"This bottle contains 13 ozs. of pure Apple juice made from six large orchard Apples. It contains no added water, or preservative. A small glass of this delicious Apple juice taken daily is enjoyable and health-giving."

Our friend states that this 13 oz. bottle is being retailed at 8d. or three for 1/9 with 1d. refund on each bottle, thus making the price 6d. per bottle.

:: :: ::

The C.S.I.R. has done much preliminary work in investigating the possibilty of increasing fruit juice production. Five main requirements need to be considered: (1) Uniformly good quality juice under Australian standards; (2) Properly served and available to the public at a reasonable price; (3) Co-operation by the trade; (4) Co-operation by the medical profession with relation to nutritional value; and (5) a substantial advertising and publicity comcampaign.

A conference of Australian Apple juice manufacturers was held at Melbourne on October 3, under the auspices of the Australian Apple and Pear Board, Mr. J. B. Mills presiding, when methods of certifying approved brands were decided upon, also a publicity programme.

Spraying in October for Apples and Pears

OCTOBER is an extremely busy month for the spraying of Apple and Pear Orchards, and although locality and climatic conditions affect the period and class of spraying, the following suggestions are given as a general guide.

Apples.

Lime-sulphur spray for Granny Smiths and Jonathans should be given when 5 to 10 per cent. of the blossoms open. The first lime sulphur spray in the first or second week should consist of 2¼ gals. to 80 gals. The second spray in the third and fourth week should be 1½ gals. to 80 gals. Delicious will be a little later, say four to six days, for each of the sprays.

Towards the end of the month, calyx sprays will be necessary for all mid-season Apple varieties. For longer bloom period varieties, it is advisable to apply both early and late calyx sprays to make sure that the calyces are well covered.

In some districts, like Stanley and Upper Pakenham, in Victoria, where codling and calyx infection is not severe and the emergence of the moth is delayed on account of cool weather, calyx spray is not so essential, and can generally be omitted.

Rome Beauty and London Pippin will reach the green tip stage in the first and second weeks, and the usual 6-4-40 Bordeaux mixture should be applied for the control of black spot. Both of these varieties will be ready for the first lime-sulphur spray during the fourth week (at about the 5 to 10 per cent. blossom stage). Cleopatras in northern districts will be ready for the petal-fall treatment in about the fourth week, when arsenate of lead should be used in the proportion of 5 lb. paste to 80 gals. water.

Pears.

In northern and southern districts, delayed calyx spray of arsenate lead 5-80 should be applied for Packhams, Josephine and Winter Nelis round about October 20, but before the calyx closes.

Little Leaf

EXPERIMENTS AT STANTHORPE, QUEENSLAND.

IN a pamphlet issued by the Queensland Department of Agriculture, Mr. Keighley M. Ward, M.Ag.Sc., Research Officer, gives a description of Little Leaf, a functional disorder of Apple trees, describes experiments conducted at Stanthorpe, results achieved, spray systems adopted, some notes on research work and concludes with a summary of the investigations.

Little-leaf, a functional disorder of Apple trees, is of major importance in the Stanthorpe district, and results in the complete suppression of terminal growth, followed by dieback, on individual branches or on whole trees.

Symptoms of the disorder are most noticeable in Spring, when the development of the foliage on affected shoots or branches is delayed, and leaf growth is markedly reduced, resulting in the formation of rosettes of small leaves in the place of normal foliage and normal shoot growth.

Previous investigations have demonstrated that the disorder can be remedied by supplying zinc to affected trees. Extensive experimental work of a quantitative nature has therefore been undertaken at Stanthorpe to find the most practicable means of supplying zinc to Apple trees growing under a variety of conditions. The various treatments under investigation include foliage and dormant-period sprays, soil dressings, and tree injections.

After one growing season, definite response has been obtained only on those trees which received a dormant spray consisting of 50 lb. of zinc sulphate in 100 gallons of water. This treatment was applied in July, and response was observed in the following October. Other treatments did not show any consistent response in the season following their application, but it cannot be inferred that all these other treatments will continue indefinitely to show no beneficial effects. It is felt that further positive results may be obtained from several treatments during further tests.

"HILLMAN" ORCHARD STRIP PLOW

Double Furrow

A sturdy, strong plow equipped with reversible discs to enable the operator to plow up to, or away from the trees. Operated by a single lever and with nothing to catch branches of trees. To facilitate the movement of the plow around the orchard the discs are movable and lift clear of the ground.

The steering arms are drop forged from the best mild steel and the main wheels are equipped with ball bearings.
Two medium horses can work this machine all day without tiring. A machine may be obtained for a trial at any time.

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LUCERNE FOR STOCK.

Superior to Meadow Hay.

Lucerne is rightly called the King of Fodder crops, and orchardists who run stock are referred to the following excerpts from the "N.Z. Journal of Agriculture. Lucerne yield per acre is extremely high. Whilst its food value is superior to the best meadow pasture. Substantiating this, the writer quotes that five tons lucerne is equivalent in animal nutrition to 25 or 30 acres of meadow hay. Lucerne in America (there called alfalfa) is grown on millions of acres of ground and this area is being increased every year.

Several reasons are cited why lucerne is not more extensively sown in the Dominion, including: Lack of appreciation of its high food value; the quantity of natural forage found in the Summer; belief that lucerne is difficult to establish and maintain. This latter however, is challenged. The main requirements are: Open, fertile soil and subsoil; humus and moisture supplied soil; soil well supplied with lime (average requirement one ton lime per acre); thorough seed bed preparation; old pasture land rather than recently cropped land and three to four cwt. fertilizer per acre.

Goulburn Valley (Victoria) News and Notes

Welcome Rainfall — Fruit Crops Shaping Well — Shepparton Growers' Meeting — Problems of the Canning Industry — British Government Will Take Surplus Stocks, States Minister for External Affairs — Tomato Culture.

(By Our Correspondent.)

A GREAT CHANGE has come over the Goulburn Valley since the welcome break in the weather; almost 2in. of rain has fallen for the past month. This has greatly refreshed the orchards and dry pasture lands as well as delaying irrigation, and has replenished the water storages considerably and made the season reasonably safe for a full water supply.

Peaches.

Canning Peaches have set a good crop and most varieties will need thinning Apricots also are carrying a fair to good crop, while most varieties of Plums have also set well. Pears are in full bloom and show every promise of a good crop.

Ploughing, cultivating and preparing land for first irrigation has been the general work for the month, which will be followed by the first codling moth spray early in October.

Personal.

Mr. G. Helson, of the C.S.I.R. is expected back in Mooroopna shortly to finalise his experimental work on Oriental Peach moth in Goulburn Valley orchards.

AUSTRALIAN CANNED FRUITS.

Britain Will Take Carryover, says Mr. McEwen.

Addressing a meeting of growers at Shepparton recently, Hon. J. McEwen, M.P., Minister for External Affairs, stated that owing to the shortage of shipping facilities there had been a carryover of 400,000 cases of Australian canned fruits.

As the result of continued negotiations, continued the Minister, the United Kingdom will buy the fruit as soon as it can allocate shipping to lift it. Great Britain would not buy canned fruits from the United States, although it was a nearer market, until it has lifted our carryover of last year.

Concluding, the Minister stated that he believed the required shipping arrangements could be made fairly quickly.

"THIN OUT," SAYS SPEAKER.

Canning Position Obscure.

Shepparton Association's Annual Report.

AT the annual meeting of the Shepparton Fruitgrowers' Association on August 29, Mr. J. G. B. McDonald, M.L.A., a director of the S.P.C., advised growers to thin out heavily this year in view of the obscure position facing the canning industry Not only did thinning-out pay on a tonnage basis, but it also gave better quality production.

The President, Mr. N. W. Fairless urged that all available fruit should be canned, and, if necessary, stored.

80,000 Trees Lost.

The Association's annual report stated that last year had been the most disastrous ever experienced by Shepparton growers: over 80,000 trees had been killed by excessive rains, which were recorded as 36.7 inches, the heaviest ever known: Drainage experiments were being conducted. Although prices for canning fruit was higher than the previous season, losses made very few able to profit by the higher prices. War conditions also had a depressing effect, shipping space was decreased and resulted in some carryover of stocks.

Election of Officers.

Mr. N. W. Fairless was re-elected President and Mr. V. E. Mills was re-elected Secretary for the ensuing year, their third year in office. Vice-Presidents are Messrs. R. M. Roberts and A. A. Dobson (re-elected); Treasurer. Mr. V. J. Riley (re-elected); Committee, Messrs. H. Hanlow, C. J. Jane. W. Pearce, W. F. Ford, J. Prentice, B. Marshall and A. F. Jones.

In spite of hard conditions, the ledger was cleared with a credit balance of £7/17/1. Charitable donations from the district included £140/14/- for the Mooroopna Hospital, besides a satisfactory response to the War Ambulance Appeal Fund.

Additions and improvements have been made to the S.P.C. factory giving increased storage space and an additional can-making line as well as extra machinery. Messrs. S. J. Perry & Co. had also erected extra cool storage facilities to give a further 25,000 case capacity. They also installed an improved washing plant, grading machinery, conveyors and other equipment, including a weighbridge.

TOMATO GROWING.

Experimental Plot at Tatura.

Growers are Organising.

THE Victorian Department of Agriculture has decided to establish experimental plots at Tatura, where studies of existing varieties and strains and the breeding of new varieties will be undertaken. The main procedure will include investigations as to suitability to the district, productiveness, quality, use, cultural treatment, seed and plant selection, etc. The breeding and introduction of new varieties with desirable characteristics as to quality, disease resistance, etc., will be proceeded with. Varieties from other States and overseas will be grown and studied. Manurial trials will also be made and sulphate of ammonia 2 and 4 cwt. to acre, super. 4 and 8 cwt. stable manure and compost 2 tons and no manure will all be tried. Crop rotation trials will be included in the experiments.

Meetings of Tomato growers have lately been held at Shepparton, Bendigo and Echuca with a view to organisation of the industry and proposals are being compiled for submission to manufacturers covering such subjects as price and continuity of supplies.

CANNED APPLES.

A Hastings, N.Z., cannery has reported success in the canning of Apples. Though starting late this season, about 1,000 bushels have been treated and the company expects to can 10,000 bushels next year. It is pointed out that, under somewhat similar war conditions during the Great War period of 1914-18, American factories processed large quantities for the U.S. Army, and later introduced this class of canned fruit to the public. Sturmers, cut into eighths, were compressed into tins, and when cooked, cooled and opened, the contents came out in the form of a jelly mould with the eighths retaining their shape.

Fruitgrowers

Supplement Your Income By

Growing Tomatoes

Plants of the following varieties now available:—

HUTCHINSON'S SPECIAL IMPROVED LARGE RED: A prolific cropper, unequalled for marketing. **200 8/-; 1,000 30/-.**

We also sell and recommend the following varieties: Burbank Improved (the earliest Tomato in the world); South Australian Red: Burwood Wonder; Wilding's Prolific; Velocity; Large Red, Yellow Top; Orange Prolific; Earliana; John Baer.

Prices: 200 6/-; 1,000 25/-.

No Orders Under 200 Supplied.

All our plants are growing in new cases, each case containing 200 plants; thoroughly hardened and ready for planting in the open.

Special Price for Larger Quantities.

Terms.—Strictly cash with order. Freight must be added for prepaid stations. Exchange must be added to all country cheques.

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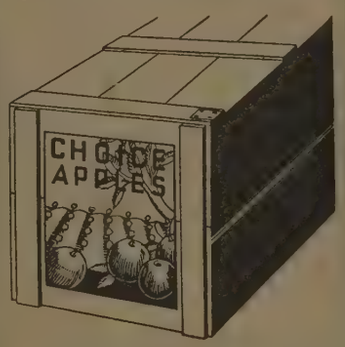

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All particulars about

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Victorian News and Notes

CROP REPORTS

Crop reports and district notes are to hand from correspondents as follows:—

Quantong: Mr. C. S. Jost, assistant manager of Quantong Fruitgrowers', reports:—

Peaches: Excellent flowering.

Apricots: Vary considerably. Some crops almost wiped out with frosts.

Plums and Prunes: Very heavy flowering.

Apples: Some growers are beheading these, and others removing them altogether.

Pears: Excellent flowering.

Drought conditions could not be more serious. Water storages are much lower than drought of two years ago, and present indications are that unless heavy rains come, sections of some orchards may not survive. There is a general rush to the Wimmera river banks with pumping outfits for the growing of Tomatoes and vegetables. The development of the Rifle Butts water scheme at Balmoral is anxiously awaited by all sections of Quantong, as the place will find it hard to exist should dry seasons continue. Many growers lost sections of their trees two years ago, apart from the loss in small and reject fruit.

Harcourt: Mr. Jas. H. Ely reports under date September 14:—

I think one could sum up a very heavy crop of blossom, all varieties—Apples, Pears, Plums. Other fruits not grown to any great extent. Cherry trees generally have severely suffered through the drought, and in many orchards have practically died right out.

Fruit trees generally, particularly in the old orchards, have had a very severe setback through the long drought of 1937-38 and are going to take years to fully recover. This, in my opinion, was the cause of the heavy falling of the fruit last season. It appears that the dryness of the ground and the very hot weather killed the fibrous or feeder roots, causing the trees and fruit not to respond to irrigation as in former years.

The **water question** again this season is not as satisfactory at present as growers would wish for. The Coliban storage basins are not yet half full, and anxiety is felt at getting full supplies for the coming season. This week 110 points of rain greatly relieves the position for the next couple of weeks, but more heavy falls in the catchment area would be welcomed.

Growers generally are very pleased that the Premier, Mr. Dunstan, had made money available out of the loan money to complete the Lauriston Reservoir, and we congratulate him on doing this. Had this work been held up possibly the cost in getting same restarted would have cost some thousands of pounds more.

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THRIPS MENACE.

Weather Conditions Avert Infestation.

In our September issue attention was directed to a threatened thrips infestation in Victoria. Some growers put on an oil spray to bring out the blossoms early. However, a cold snap followed by heavy rains in the affected areas cleared away the troubles and the menace was averted.

Mr. R. T. M. Pescott, Government entomologist, states that Pear and Apple blossoms have advanced to a stage at which thrips danger is past and the thrips population is not more than normal at this time of the year.

FROSTS IN VICTORIA.

The official closing of Winter brought frost as a farewell gesture which took heavy toll of the Apricot crop in the Bacchus Marsh district. Peaches too, and some Apple and Pear crops were badly affected. Growers stated that much of the loss could have been prevented by the use of frost-protection equipment had not the difficulty of securing oil and fuel supplies arisen. Burners were mostly out of use and the frost therefore had a clear run.

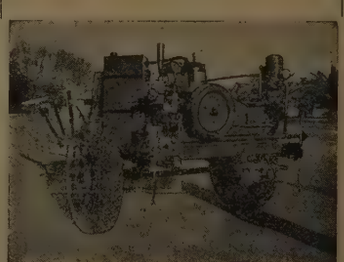
In the Mildura area the frost was too early to cause much damage to dried fruit vines, whilst in the Goulburn Valley the frost was fortunately not severe enough to affect the crops in that area.

You certainly kept your promise, doctor, when you said you would have me walking again in a month.

Doctor: Well, that's fine.

Yes, I had to sell my car to pay your bill.

— THE —
BAVE-U
POWER SPRAYER



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VICTORIAN NOTES.

(Continued.)

DROUGHT CONDITIONS EASED.

But More Rain Needed.

The conditions approaching drought in some Victorian districts were fortunately somewhat relieved by late rains last month but the Water Commission still has some concern regarding irrigation supplies. Most water storages are below normal for the present season with decreasing inflows. Eildon Weir which supplies most of the Goulburn irrigation area recorded less than one-third receival ordinarily reported in August and the Murray River is reported to have suffered to a like extent.

Whilst there are indications that full water rights can still be obtained, some sections may have to be curtailed. The Water Commission will protect fruitgrowers as long as possible even though other users may be forced to reduce supplies and diversion of water without the Commission's authority will be carefully watched.

In New South Wales, a much worse position is reported. No substantial falls of rain were reported during August from most growing areas other than northern coastal districts. Only a few points fell to alleviate the protracted drought. Natural feed is reported to be scarce in most areas, whilst the Upper Hunter and parts of the north-west are practically bare of grass. In spite of conditions, however, stock are holding their condition well with the assistance of hand feeding. Pests are quoted as being more or less quiescent as a result of dry conditions. Very little stock replacement is being proceeded with.

A still later report (24/9/40) says that Victorian storages of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission totalled 1,741,-030 acre feet, receiving 64,540 acre feet increase for the past week in spite of heavy irrigation drawings. The Goulburn system had increased by about 25,000 acre feet, which would ensure full deliveries to irrigators. Hume Reservoir benefited by nearly 34,000 acre feet. Coliban was disappointing and restrictions may have to be made. Bacchus Marsh and Werribee had not benefited greatly.

REMARKABLE APPLE DISPLAY AT THE RECENT BRISBANE (Q.) SHOW.

Victorian Crop Prospects

Heavy Crops of Apples and Pears Expected — Cultural Hints — Citrus Crops and Blossoming Good — Sprays for Vines.

CONDITIONS prevailing in Victorian fruitgrowing districts during September are reviewed in a report issued on October 1, by the Department of Agriculture.

Dry conditions continued during the early part of the month, but later rains enabled cultivation to proceed normally, and the soil was in fine condition for this work. The water position has been somewhat alleviated, but heavy downfalls are still required to provide adequate Summer irrigation in the Harcourt, Bendigo and Quantong districts.

The severe frost early in the month caused some damage to varieties of fruit in flower at that time, but except in one or two particular instances no great reduction in crop is anticipated. Severe damage was done to **Almonds** at Eldorado, where almost a total loss occurred and 50 per cent. loss is reported from Bamawm. Some damage was noticed in **Apricots** throughout the State, but later blooms set well and fairly satisfactory crops are expected.

Apple and Pear trees showed earlier bud development than usual. From the amount of blossom visible in all districts, heavy crops of all varieties are expected.

The blossom sprays for protection against **black spot** were generally applied according to schedule, although on account of the dry conditions in some districts, there was a tendency to reduce the number of sprays. This practice cannot be recommended because the effectiveness of control depends on the amount of spray material present before weather conditions favorable to black spot occur. Therefore it is not wise to postpone these sprays.

In spite of the appearance of **thrips** early in the month, they were not sufficient in number to indicate that a serious infestation may occur.

Some **codling moths** have already been noticed on the wing so that early activity may be expected. Growers have made efforts to destroy hibernating larvae under bark, in cracks, in butts, props and cases in order that the infestation might be reduced during the coming season.

In the Goulburn Valley, **Apricot and Peach** blossoming has given expectations of satisfactory crops. Irrigation has commenced on the Shepparton side of the river and thousands of newly planted trees have been hand watered.

The sprouting of **vines** has been irregular. Growers are applying Bordeaux sprays as a precaution against black spot in the Mildura district. This has been delayed in the Swan Hill district because irrigation was still in progress. With present weather conditions, growers would be well advised to see that young shoots are well covered with Bordeaux mixture.

In the Mildura district, **Citrus groves** are showing a light amount of blossom. The prospects for a satisfactory Grapefruit crop next year are fairly bright. A heavy Valencia crop is expected this year, but as yet the fruit is small. Growers are sending away as many Lemons as possible because of the high prices. New citrus plantings are being made in some parts, and growers are finding difficulty in obtaining trees on Orange root stocks. Some growers in the Swan Hill district show a tendency to delay Orange picking in the hope that higher prices might be realised. This practice results in an inferior grade of fruit and may adversely affect next season's crop.

The **drainage** scheme is going ahead at Woorinen, and a recovery in the vigor of vines and trees on former poorly drained properties is expected. The bulk of Navels from the Bamawm district have been harvested with little damage from septoria or red scale. Citrus groves in the Warby ranges showed no ill-effect from the prolonged dry period.

Lemon groves in the Metropolitan district were slightly damaged by frost, but normal crops are expected.

Pakenham Upper, 26/9/40: A preliminary report on fruit prospects for coming season shows:—

Good to heavy bloom on all varieties in this locality. Trees looking well. Season 10 to 12 days earlier than last year. Bees fairly plentiful.

Varieties mainly grown are Jonathan, Yates, Rokewood, Statesman, Granny Smith, Delicious.

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LEMONS, ORANGES, GRAPEFRUIT, PEARS, PEACHES, APRICOTS, BERRIES, CHERRIES.

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AUCTION Wednesday 23rd October 1940 **Of one of Australia's finest garden properties**

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69A. Apples, 20A. Pears, 50A. Oats, 120A. Grass Land. 15 Houses, Packing Sheds, etc. Working Plant. EXCELLENT WATER SUPPLY.

TERMS:—£3,000 Deposit. Balance over 5 years. Interest 4½% per annum. ORDERS TO VIEW FROM AUCTIONEERS.

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THE CITRUS INDUSTRY

MANURING OF CITRUS

Nitrogen Is Important

IN THE MANURING of citrus trees nitrogen is stated by the "N.S.W. Agricultural Notes" to be the most important nutrient, and the following mixture is recommended:—

Sulphate of ammonia—6 cwt.
Sulphate of potash—1½ cwt.

Mix together well, and apply ¾ lb. of the mixture per tree for each year of the tree's age up to 15 lb.; thus, an eight-year-old tree will receive 6 lb.

The fertiliser should not be placed close to the butt of the tree, but should be spread out well over the remaining land. It should be worked in well with the plough, cultivator or forked hoe. Where time will permit, one of the best ways of applying fertiliser is to spread it just prior to ploughing in the Winter cover crop. Care must be taken to see that the fertiliser is not in lumps, but is evenly distributed.

Citrus trees are evergreen and more or less active right through the year. In sandy coastal soils, the total application can advisedly be made in two or three amounts, as dictated by the probability of leaching occurring subsequent to rain.

Citrus trees' requirements in areas inland under irrigation are usually well supplied from nitrogenous sources only in a single yearly application. The form of nitrogen does not generally matter, the unit cost being the chief consideration.

Up to 3 lb. of nitrogen is necessary for large trees.

It is sometimes noticed that trees manured on the lines recommended above produce fruit which is rather soft or spongy in the rind, and which may also be rather coarse. This tendency is sometimes ascribed to the effects of the manure, but it is only evident in association with a rainfall above the average. Many soils may be affected in some seasons in proximity to the coast, and it is recommended in these cases that the nitrogen requirement of the trees be either supplied in much smaller quantities and more frequently, or that nitrogen in a less rapidly available form be used.

Superphosphate of Indirect Benefit.

Superphosphate does not appear to be of direct benefit to citrus trees, but is of value in stimulating weed growth or cover crops for supplementing the organic matter which is essential. The most economical time for applying superphosphate would probably be the Autumn, when growth to supply organic matter is to be expected, and a dressing of 2 cwt. per acre at this time is recommended.

A sufficiency of organic matter in the soil is essential to tree health and productivity. Where the production of leguminous cover crops or satisfactory weed growth is not possible, annual applications of animal or fowl manure is necessary. On aged trees, 3 to 5 tons per acre, according to soil type, are advisable. If trees are very debilitated, even 10 tons per acre would not be an excessive application.

Question of Liming.

The question of the advisability of applying lime to the citrus orchard is frequently raised. No direct benefit to the trees is apparent, but leguminous cover crops often make a marked response. In all coastal districts, moreover, citrus trees are growing in soils which are definitely acid, and which, theoretically at least, would benefit from liming. With the continuous addition of organic matter to the soil (ploughing in of weeds, etc.), supplemented by applications of fertiliser such as sulphate of ammonia, an increased acid condition may be expected. Such a condition is undesirable, and to avoid it an application of from 10 cwt. to a ton of lime per acre every third or fourth year is recommended. As coastal soils are deficient in magnesium and this is supplied in dolomite lime, it is preferable that this form be used instead of agricultural lime (carbonate of lime).

Give Your Trees a Chance

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Citrus in N.S.W.

A report of the N.S.W. Department of Agriculture up to September 11 stated that the harvesting of Navel Oranges and Mandarins was almost complete, and a few Valencias were then going forward to market. Citrus growth had been retarded by dry weather in the Wiseman's Ferry district. In the Gosford area rains from one to four inches had been received and Spring growth was advancing. Blossoming was anticipated to be disappointing. Valencias promised to be small. In the Kurrajong district the dry weather had a detrimental effect on trees and crops, retarding bud development. Common Oranges failed to fill out. A medium crop of Valencias, on the small size, was expected.

In the Parramatta-Camden districts, frosts caused considerable damage to all classes of citrus. In most other areas the report states that small size is being reported.

In **Apple** districts, dry conditions prevailed to date of the report and rain was still needed. Bud development was medium to good on Granny Smiths, Jonathan, Delicious and Rome Beauty, and only medium on Pears. Plums, Peaches and Nectarines were showing good bud development. Leeton reported good fruiting wood on Apples and the removal of unprofitable trees from Orchards.

FIELD DAYS IN VICTORIA.

Citrus Culture in the Mildura District.

UNDER the auspices of the Victorian Central Citrus Association, two successful field days were held in the Mildura district during September—one at Messrs. Leng Bros., Irymple, where the Department of Agriculture has a valuable **citrus root stock experimental plot** of six acres, which is now six years old. Details of progress were explained to growers, who made an examination of the growth and cropping of the trees on the various stocks.

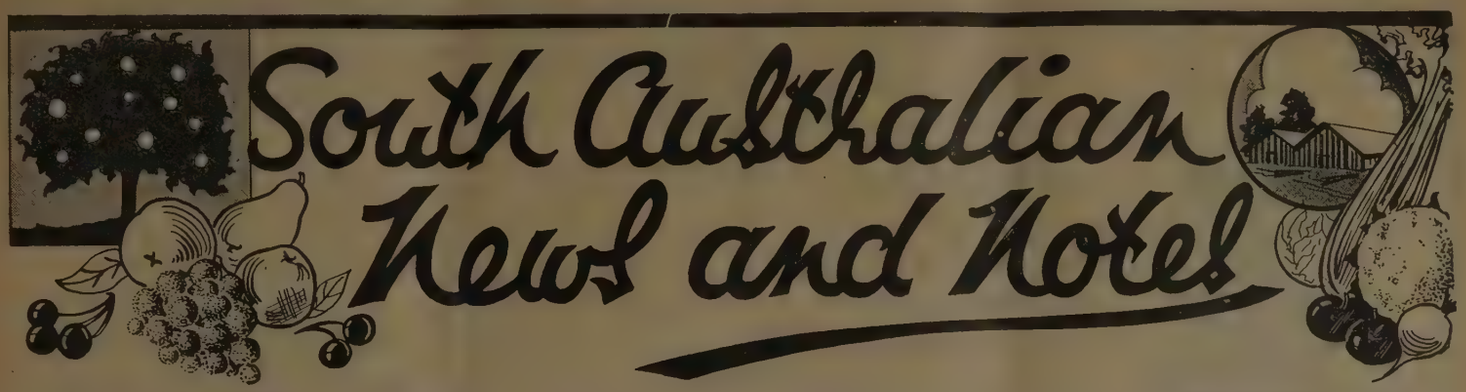
The other field day was held on the grove of Capt. D. B. Halhed (Chairman of the V.C.C.A.) in connection with the manurial trial plot which has been in operation for several years.

Both demonstrations were well attended, and the usual keen interest displayed by all concerned. Growers and officials from N.S.W. attended.

Mr. J. M. Ward, Superintendent of Horticulture, gave a talk on the general work of the Horticultural Division, and the reasons for putting the investigational work into execution, and Mr. J. L. Provan, Senior Horticultural Instructor, furnished details of progress.

Mr. Ward pointed out that the findings of the Research Branch are placed before growers by the instructional officers, and this enables research officers to devote the whole of their time to making further investigations into growers' problems. The co-operation between these officers is a very happy one, as they all realise they are giving service to the fruit industry and growers reap the benefit.

(Continued on page 23)



INCLUDING OFFICIAL NOTES AND REPORTS FROM THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FRUITGROWERS' & MARKET GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION.

S.A. Fruitgrowers and Market Gardeners' Association Incorp.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

THE annual general meeting of the S.A. Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Association Incorp., was held at Adelaide on September 27, at 11 a.m.

Present: Mr. H. N. Wicks (President), Mr. C. J. Pitt (Vice-President), Messrs. A. E. Brealey, F. Hughes, H. B. Robson, L. B. Pfeiffer, J. B. Randell, L. Bungay, C. Bungay, L. Winser, H. W. Parsons, H. Western, H. F. Lock, G. G. Osmond, A. W. Cramond, R. A. Cramond, E. J. Pitman, O. Essalbach, C. H. Ragless, W. J. Bishop, A. O. Petersen, W. H. Ind, A. G. Strickland (Chief Horticulturist).

Apologies: Messrs. N. T. Hobbs, G. T. Pitt, G. H. Schultz, C. Stanford and M. Packer.

Hon. A. L. McEwin: The Chairman introduced the Chief Secretary, Mr. A. L. McEwin, who was present to officially declare the annual meeting open. Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

First of all I would like to express my pleasure at being with you again this year. Like the previous occasion I am only acting on someone else's behalf, last time it was when I substituted for the Minister of Agriculture, but this morning as a substitute in the absence of the Premier.

The Premier is one of your executive, and has been associated with you for some time, and I would imagine his presence amongst you would be somewhat of a philosopher and friend. However, he has gone away to become more closely associated with the problems of the wheat grower in the drought stricken areas. The fruitgrower has his problems also, and as a member of the Government of the present time I feel that we have every branch of primary produce represented. You as fruitgrowers have particularly trying periods in the production of those fruits for which you normally have to export overseas, I am thinking now particularly of Apples and Pears. At the present time the future is very indefinite. We, of course, have discussed the matter with the Premier and up till now nothing has been done to indicate what will happen for the coming crop. There has been in the past a difference of opinion between different States, but I hope for those that are producing that the problems will be overcome, and any difficulties given a solution, and a common sense will prevail among all, so that something will be done to enable the industry to be carried on. These problems are very difficult to handle when our market depends on prospering away from our own shores and it is unfortunate that a lot of exporting industries have a definite handicap.

I am glad to know you are organising co-operation and hope to build up a local market on a very sound basis, because I note that you are making for a pronounced quality, and in doing that you are doing a great deal towards the extension of your market locally, after all it is the best market. You have done a great deal on those lines and I commend your Association on it. You have increased your branches by two during the last year. During the last year approximately 500,000 packages were exported as compared with the normal export of 400,000.

The rapidity with which industries are being established, and the future outlook for employment in Australia is very bright. There is going to be considerable employment, and it looks like employment for even more than the unemployed which we have at the present time. With the absorption of our unemployment and the establishment of industries there should be brighter days ahead for our primary producers.

I have been pleased to have been with you this morning, and trust that your deliberations will be of benefit to you. We cannot expect to have an easy path ahead, there are difficult times to go through, but we must remember that we are in the best position when compared with those that our brothers and sisters are suffering overseas.

I have every pleasure in opening your meeting this morning.

Vote of Thanks: Mr. H. N. Wicks supported by Mr. W. J. Bishop, moved a vote of thanks to Mr. McEwin, who was also presented with a basket of fruit.

Chairman's Report: The President, Mr. H. N. Wicks, presented his annual report, briefly reviewing the activities of the Association during the past twelve months.

Sectional and Branch Reports.

Tomato Section: Report from the Chairman of the Section, Mr. C. Stanford, showed that the 1939 season was a record in so far as quantities were concerned. The 1940 season was just commencing and early quantities were light. The Section was this year distributing a very attractive poster.

Cherry Section: Mr. W. J. Bishop reported that the Cherry Section had enjoyed a record 1939-40 season, and this year's boom promised a very satisfactory crop.

Soft Fruit Section: Mr. F. Hughes reported that the Soft Fruit Section had hopes of becoming an exporting Section—experiments made during the past two seasons had proved satisfactory. The main function of the Section at present was the stabilisation of the local markets, and efforts had yielded definite results.

Potato Section: Messrs. J. B. Randell and C. J. Pitt briefly reported on Potato matters.

Citrus Section: Mr. O. Essalbach reported that there had been a good local crop with the distribution satisfactory. Prices however, were only average. The Association's operations with factories during the year was greatly appreciated by citrus growers as over 100 tons of Lemons and Poorman Oranges had been placed with factories at a payable price.

Marion Branch: Mr. H. Western reported that owing to the sectionizing of the industry the main function of the Marion Branch was Almonds. The Branch had set out to make a success of the Almond industry, and during the past nine years had successfully sold the whole of district Almonds. He expressed appreciation of the co-operative efforts of the Branch officers.

Barossa Branch: Mr. H. Lock reported that the benefits of amalgamation with the Central Association were mainly indirect, but were, however, of definite advantage. The district crop showed promise of being reasonable, but severe frosts had had an adverse affect.

Onkaparinga Branch: Mr. L. B. Pfeiffer reported that the new Branch was making good progress, and a scheme for seed certification of potatoes was proceeding beyond expectations.

Apple Section: Mr. R. A. Cramond stated that growers by not taking the interest they should in their industry had had a bearing somewhat on the present position. He said it was to Apple and Pear growers' mutual advantage to pull together.

Trading Society: Mr. W. J. Bishop reported that the Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Society Ltd., was making definite progress and last year constitupted a record trading year.

Financial Statement: The Secretary submitted the receipts and payments statement for the year ended August 31, 1940, together with the auditor's report.

EXECUTIVE MEETING.

The October meeting of the Executive Committee will be held in the Board Room, 288A Rundle-street, Adelaide, on Friday, October 25, 1940, at 10 a.m.

Business:

Confirmation of Minutes.
Correspondence.
Matters deferred at Annual Meeting.
Sectional and Branch Reports.
Financial Report.
General.

H. N. WICKS (President).
A. STUART (Secretary).

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Mr. H. N. Wicks moved the adopton of the reports and financial statement. Mr. L. J. Wicks supported the motion, which was duly carried.

Election of Officers.

The following officers were elected for 1940-41: President, Mr. H. N. Wicks; Vice-President, Mr. C. J. Pitt; Past President, Mr. W. J. Bishop.

Executive Committee: Messrs. L. J. Wicks, N. T. Hobbs, W. H. Ind, A. O. Petersen, R. Hunter, G. J. Strange, R. A. Cramond, J. B. Randell, J. Turner, H. B. Robson.

Life Member to Executive: Mr. C. W. Giles; **Auditor:** Mr. S. R. Hosking.

Hail Damage: A letter was received from the Minister of Agriculture concerning the hail damage to fruit trees.

Resolved, that letter be deferred until next executive meeting.

Central Branch: As the Central Branch has ceased to function, Mr. A. O. Petersen moved: "That the Branch Committee meet to decide what is to be done with the funds in hand." Seconded Mr. J. B. Randell. Carried.

Vote of Thanks to Chairman: Mr. A. O. Petersen and Mr. W. H. Ind moved a vote of thanks to the President for his untiring efforts during the year. Carried with acclamation.

The Chairman (Mr. H. N. Wicks) suitably responded.

Mr. W. H. Ind expressed the appreciaton of Association for the attendance of Mr. A. G. Strickland (Chief Horticulturist) at executive meetings. Mr. H. B. Robson supported Mr. Ind.

The Chairman expressed his thanks to the executive committee for their co-operation during the year.

MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

THE Executive Committee of the S.A. Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Assn. Incorp. was held in the Committee Room, 288A Rundle-street, Adelaide, on September 27, at 10.30 a.m.

The President (Mr. H. N. Wicks) occupied the chair, and members present were: Messrs. C. H. Ragless, C. J. Pitt, W. J. Bishop, A. O. Petersen, H. W. Parsons, H. B. Robson, F. Hughes, A. E. Brealey, O. Essalbach, W. H. Ind, R. A. Cramond, L. B. Pfeiffer, J. Turner, G. Jennings, L. J. Wicks, A. G. Strickland.

Apologies: Messrs. N. T. Hobbs, G. T. Pitt, G. H. Schultz, C. Stanford and M. Packer.

Report Sub-Committee: Mr. W. J. Bishop reported that he and Mr. H. W. Parsons had interviewed the Merchants' Assn., following the resolution of last meeting to discuss the matter of "droppers" operating in market lanes.

Correspondence: Letter from the Auditor, Mr. S. K. Hosking, pointing out the difficulty of obtaining receipts from growers, and recommending that all cheques be submitted to him before posting to growers. Resolved that Mr. Hosking's recommendation be adopted.

Audit Fee: Following request from the Auditor for a higher fee, it was decided: "That the audit fee be increased to £3/3/-."

Premier: Letter from the Premier concerning the supply of vegetable seed to the United Kingdom.

Resolved, the matter be deferred until next meeting.

W. Angliss & Co.: Letter from W. Angliss & Co., re lease of premises.

Petrol Rationing: The Secretary pointed out that pickers-up for the Association would be adversely affected by the petrol rationing.

Mr. Cramond moved: "That the Secretary be empowered to take whatever action necessary in the matter." Seconded Mr. A. O. Petersen. Carried.

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It gave me the power of 260 pairs of hands in a simple and compact form; the lever is short, so that I am able to stand firm-footed and get the full stroke. There are two speeds in the machine, as well as an automatic release that allows me to let off a strain, or as the machine will work in any position, it comes in for all jobs that would require a chain block. It is taken to the job on a pair of wheels like a barn truck, and is rigged for work in a few minutes. The ropes are in lengths that I find easy to handle, and each one is fitted with hook and loop couplings, so simple and absolutely IT for effectiveness. The makers have included a sturdy snatch block with a novel method of securing to the ropes, and also a fine type of firm gripping rope shortener. The latter makes it very easy to accommodate the lengths of rope to the tree or stump being pulled, and is quickly released from the rope. The combination of so many time and labor saving features makes the "Monkey" Grubber a superior grubbing outfit.

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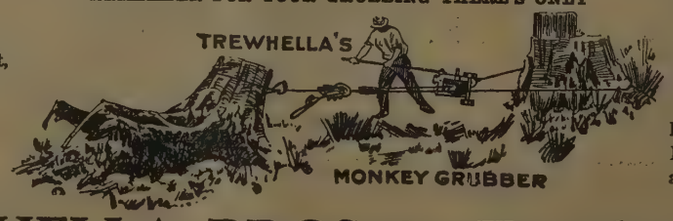

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The South Australian Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Association

ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

THE annual conference of the S.A. Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Association was held in the Board Room on Friday, September 27, 1940. Mr. H. N. Wicks (President) occupied the chair.

The attendance was somewhat disappointing, particularly so as the subject matter of the various speakers was of a very high nature.

The Minister of Agriculture (Mr. A. P. Blesing) was welcomed by the Chairman at 2 p.m. and was asked to declare the Conference open.

Mr. Blesing, in opening the conference, said: "I thank you for your welcome, and I only wish that we were meeting in a better atmosphere as far as world affairs are concerned. Our people throughout the Empire are all prepared to do their part, and production must go on. I am pleased to know that you are endeavoring to relieve the position locally, and needless to say the Department of Agriculture will afford you every possible assistance. Your main trouble is with Apples and Pears through the inability to secure shipping space for these commodities. We can gain nothing by complaining to the Government because England is up against all sorts of problems. England had to do without the things that are least important, and I am afraid I cannot see much life at the present time. There is one bright spot, however, that is the increasing of manufacture in South Australia, not only for war purposes, but for other purposes. No doubt, when hostilities cease it will not continue at the same rate, but we feel that one establishment will at lease continue a proportion of that increase. Your mixed produce will be bound to find a greater outlet, and consumption must increase. For the next two or three years definitely, there will be an increased employment in this State that will benefit you people direct. Mr. Chairman, I am not here to say what you ought to or ought not to do, but with regard to the coming crop, I am hoping that until victory is reached there will be no complaints. I again wish to boast and feel confident that we will keep South Australia on the map as far as quality is concerned.

One point of interest is that steps are being taken in regard to Potato Seed Certification in this State, and if something can be done even in a small way to start, we will be willing to assist in every possible way.

I hope you have a successful Conference, and make the best of a bad case, and have faith that we will win this struggle.

I now have much pleasure in declaring your Conference open."

The Vice-President, Mr. C. J. Pitt, supported by Mr. W. J. Bishop, moved a vote of thanks to the Minister, which was carried with acclamation.

The President presented the Minister with a specially decorated basket of fruit.

Co-ordination of all Activities.

Mr. W. J. Bishop gave a paper on how all the activities of the Association could be co-ordinated and thus result in definite benefits to the whole industry. The paper gave rise to much discussion, and Mr. L. J. Wicks moved:

"That Mr. Bishop's paper be publicised as much as possible through the members, and the matter of reserves be gone into with the executive with the view of establishing Association reserves for the benefit of growers generally."

Seconded Mr. J. Turner. Carried.

Hail Damage: Resolved that this matter be deferred for discussion at the next executive meeting.

Mr. G. J. Rodger, B.Sc.:

Mr. G. J. Rodger (Conservator of Forests) delivered a very interesting and instructive address on the growing of pinus insignus in South Australia. Mr. Rodger handled his subject in three parts: (1) Forest Policy and Soil Survey; (2) Growing and Felling; (3) Milling.

Mr. R. A. Cramond, supported by Mr. W. J. Bishop, thanked Mr. Rodger for his address.

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AUSTRALIAN FRUIT OVERSEAS.

Address by Mr. A. G. Strickland (Chief Horticulturist).

I have been asked to say something of my trip abroad, which was to compare our fruit with other fruits on the United Kingdom markets. Just as a matter of interest I would like to point out that something like 90 million parcels of fruit are imported into England annually, a third of which is Oranges. Apples rank next with 21 million bushels. England herself is quite a big Apple producing country, her Apple crop is something like that of Australia. In regard to South Australian Apples and Pears on the United Kingdom market, I would like to say at the outset that our fruit was every bit as good as fruit from the United States. I do not want to praise it up too much as we have a good deal to learn and a good deal to do yet. In regard to grading there was a fair amount of variation in our fruit, the variation in size was quite neglected in some instances. One of the troubles with our packing is slackness.

What I saw of the S.A. Fruitgrowers' Association pack was creditable. Good growers are good packers, a thing which buyers notice immediately. Any defect is always affected in the price, and a lot of it is due to undersized fruit. In regard to packing, I saw nothing that should make us swerve from our two standard packing cases.

With packing material, I feel that we have got to do something in this respect. The corrugated cardboard used, is to my mind no good, and could be replaced by a far better material.

A lot of packs from America showed several thicknesses of heavy crepe paper. It may be a little expensive here, but may be turned out cheaper than the corrugated pads. It gives the pack a very attractive appearance, and does away with the corrugated markings on the fruit.

Maturity is another matter requiring attention, and unfortunately we have on our run from Australia to England many old ships that are not equipped in the best manner to carry our fruit. The fruit also is subjected to excessive bad handling on the wharves in England, which is a direct contrast to the efficient methods we have on this side.

Oranges: We do not send many Oranges to England, but those we do send are the finest packed and finest quality fruit on the United Kingdom markets. This was evidenced during my stay, of them gaining first prize in the Imperial Fruit Show, and by tying for first place the previous year. I tried also to see something of agricultural and research stations in England and the Continent, and during a very hurried trip through the United States.

At Long Ashton a new station situated in the West of England, Fruit Juice work was carried out under Dr. Barker. In other countries of Europe, extensive bottling and preservation of pure fruit juice was carried out. In Germany the work has been particularly outstanding, and in 1938 they were making Apple juice from Apples of the same quality that we normally export to England. The factories at that time were not getting sufficient fruit to meet the demand of that particular production. In England the same sort of thing is beginning. In fact it has progressed quite a lot. It shows that you can develop these industries, but capital and advertising are essential.

Dr. Wallace has carried out extensive work on fruit trees, and he has been able to put down on paper the symptoms and facts. It is difficult to get the experiments to tell you the truth.

In the United Kingdom a gas storage of fruit has progressed tremendously in the last few years. It merely consists of giving the fruit high concentration of CO_2, which enables you to keep the fruit longer. It is applied mostly to English cooking varieties. Very big factories keep Apples right up to February and even March.

Codling Moth Control: I did hope to see something new in that regard, but I did not. They use oil stickers to a very large extent.

I would like to say in conclusion it has been a very sketchy summary of some of the points gained during my recent trip. One thing one has to realise is that you do not pick up the tremendous information which is of immediate assistance to the industry back here in Australia. Most of it has to be experimented on under our own conditions in Australia.

:: :: :: .

The Chairman expressed the appreciation of the Conference to Mr. Strickand for his interesting address.

Fruit Trees & Fruit Tree Stocks
Splendid Stock of Healthy Plants Available.
APPLES, PEACHES, PEARS, PLUMS, APRICOTS, CITRUS, ETC., PACKED AND DESPATCHED TO ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.
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South Australian Fruit Marketing Association

Meeting of Executive Committee

The monthly meeting of the Executive of the South Australian Fruit Marketing Association was held at Adelaide on September 20, Mr. J. B. Randell presiding.

Mr. M. G. Basey reported that at the meeting of the Growers' Sub-committee, Mr. N. Brookman had given a most interesting address dealing with the cost of establishing and running his orchard of 40 acres at Meadows.

An interesting feature was that the methods adopted by Mr. Brookman had resulted in an even crop being obtained over a long period of years. This was possibly due to some extent to the 36 inch rainfall.

The figures given had made it very clear that growers must obtain a reasonable price for their produce to enable them to cover the cost of production and carry on the industry.

On October 25 Mr. H. Kemp, of the Department of Agriculture would give a talk on "Leaf Scorch Control on Apples and Pears." This would be of great interest to growers as this disease was gradually spreading from Apples to Pears and becoming a serious danger.

Acquisition Proposals.

An informal discussion took place in regard to the work of the Apple and Pear Acquisition Committee. It was hoped that the scheme next year would prove much more satisfactory. Many of the difficulties last season were due to the growers' misunderstanding the requirements of the Committee.

Mr. Searcy stated that although nothing definite had been decided in regard to next year, the Committee were already at work preparing a scheme, and hoped to be able to eliminate most of the difficulties that occurred last season.

OCTOBER MEETINGS.

The October meetings of the Association will be held at the Secretary's office, 83/4 Brookman Buildings, Grenfell-street, Adelaide, on Friday, October 25, 1940.

Growers' Sub-committee commencing at 1.45 p.m.

Speaker: Mr. Harry Kemp, Dept. of Agriculture.

Subject: "Leaf Scorch Control in Apples and Pears."

Executive Committee commencing at 2.45 p.m.

—E. WHITFIELD MILLS,
Secretary.

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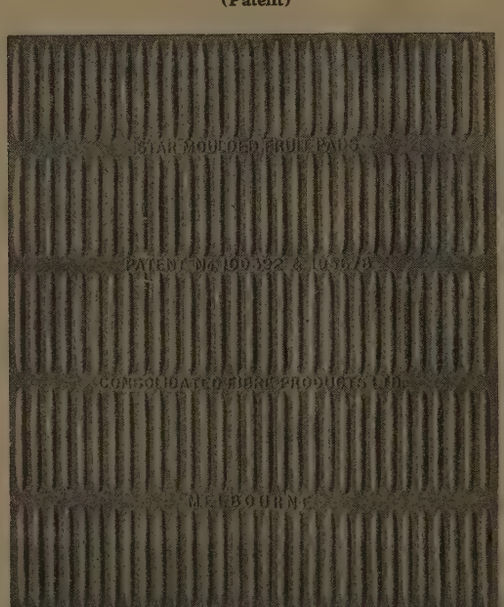

Moulded corrugated pads are the greatest advance ever made in fruit packing. They are resilient, odourless, moisture-proof. They act as a cushion and give better air circulation thus preventing damage to the fruit whilst in transit or in Cool Store.

SIZES:—12 x 6, 13½ x 6, 12 x 14, 17½ x 8, 17½ x 11.

"STAR" MOULDED FRUIT PADS are made in light grey or royal blue. These colours are fast dyes and will not taint the fruit.

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W.A. FRUITGROWERS' ASSN.

Annual Meeting Requests Continuation Of Acquisition

Pest Control Discussed — Improved Railway Facilities Needed.

RESOLUTIONS OF CONFIDENCE in the W.A. Apple and Pear Acquisition Committee, and requesting that pursuance of negotiations for the best scheme possible for the industry, were carried at the annual meeting of the W.A. Fruit Growers' Association held at Perth on September 27.

Mr. J. McNeil Martin presided over an attendance of 50 delegates from all the fruitgrowing districts of the State.

In opening the conference, the Minister for Agriculture (Hon. F. J. S. Wise) said he was not in the position to make a statement on the marketing of next year's crop, but he hoped the Federal Government would shortly issue a complete statement.

Regarding the black spot outbreak, the Government was prepared to assist growers by providing spray pump, labor, additional officers, and money up to £300.

Black Spot.

The Supt. of Horticulture (Mr. H. Powell) said that orchards representing 278 acres in the Albany and Manjimup districts were infected with black spot, for which control measures had been supplied, together with preventive measures for the adjoining 193 acres.

The cost of four sprayings would be £795. Mr. H. W. Soothill stated the Association was prepared to contribute £500 and recommended the acceptance of the Government's offer of assistance. This was agreed to.

Fruit Fly Menace.

Mr. A. C. R. Loaring presented the report of the Fruit Fly Advisory Board. He recommended that the levy of 2/6 per acre be not reduced.

Mr. Soothill said the revenue received last year was £2,450, and the proposal to reduce the fee to 1/- per acre would bring in only £1,300, which would necessitate putting off some of the Inspectors. This was undesirable, as good work was being done. A resolution favoring a continuance of the present fees, was carried.

Acquisition Proposals.

With regard to the Acquisition Scheme, Mr. Soothill regretted the delay in the payment of the 1/- per case on fruit of "prescribed quality"—the definition of which by the Minister for Commerce was awaited.

Regarding the 1940-41 season, Mr. Soothill stated that the Committee was hopeful that some form of measurement of the crop would take place, with provision for more thorough and adequate assessment on possibly two occasions during the growing period early in January, and when the later varieties were maturing.

Mr. H. Lake (Bridgetown) and other delegates expressed complaints regarding the manner in which fruit was handled by the State railways, and it was desired that representations be made to the Government for improvement.

The election of officers resulted in Mr. J. McN. Martin and Mr. Evelyn Hester being reappointed chairman and vice-chairman respectively. Members on the Fruit Organisation Board were also re-elected.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Record Flowering at Mt. Barker.

Mr. J. M. N. Martin, Mt. Barker Estate, Mt. Barker, W.A., advises on September 20, re crop prospects for the coming year:—As far as I can see and hear, in this district, we are in for a record flowering of both Apples and Pears.

This is apparently due to very seasonable weather last Spring and early Summer. In fact, up to December last we had regular and good rains, by which time the trees had made excellent growth and formed strong healthy buds.

Unfortunately, from then on, we have suffered from drought, and unless we get good late Spring rain, any crop will suffer from a shortage of moisture in the sub-soil.

The above, I am informed, more or less, holds for the rest of the State fruit districts, except in isolated spots.

"F.W." APPRECIATED.

The Editor,
Sir,

Owing to the fact that I have joined the R.A.A.F., I must ask you to discontinue sending me your publication.

I have found the "Fruit World" very interesting, and I have gained some very valuable information from it.

Wishing you all the best of success in the future.

Yours, etc.,
(Signed) M. E. Redden.
Cudlee Creek, S.A., 25/7/40.

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Dried Fruit News and Notes

Experimental Work on Dried Fruits in South Australia

DURING the past two years, experimental work on problems of dried fruit growing, which has for many years been carried on by the S.A. Department of Agriculture, has been greatly extended, as a result of assistance afforded to the Department by the Dried Fruits Board of South Australia. Such assistance has made it possible to take this work out into the orchards and vineyards of the growers throughout the State, and to carry out experiments under the conditions and surroundings under which the problems are actually arising.

The fruitgrower meets more difficulties generally than does the grower in other forms of agriculture, fruit growing being one of the most intensive forms of agriculture. The dried fruits crop of the State each year amounts to 1 to 1¼ million pounds; in 1938-9, £877,736 worth of dried fruit was exported from this State. The industry represents a not inconsiderable portion of the income of the State, and the livelihood of a considerable portion of the community, but this income is drawn from comparatively small areas as compared with the areas involved in other forms of farming. However, although the individual fruit or vine growing property is relatively small, it is devoted to a semi-permanent crop which must be maintained, and protected from pests over a long period of years. There is a much heavier drain on soil fertility, and control of pests and diseases is more difficult than it is in the case of annual or other short-lived crops.

The first extension of dried fruit work was undertaken in connection with Prunes, a considerable proportion of the fruit coming on to the market being of the smaller sizes, and of low quality. At this time the sale of all Prunes was meeting the full draft of the depression, and the appearance in several successive seasons of a larger proportion of the smaller, and lower quality grades was further depressing prices for the whole crop.

A survey of the industry has been made, and it is clear that to a large extent, the appearance of this small fruit in greater proportions was itself a reflection of the depression. The low prices ruling led to the neglect of the most expensive of Prune growing operations—pruning. After one or two years of neglect and overgrowth, particularly occurring where Prune trees were grown as a shelter belt, or few in number as a side line, and not regarded as very important, the trees reached the stage where they were unable to support their leaf surface and fruit through the dry Summer. Each year the position became more acute.

This position has now been largely overcome, by education of the growers, by the reappearance of a profit margin in the industry, and the abandonment of many trees in marginal and sub-marginal areas. In any case in South Australia, where most of the Prunes are grown in non-irrigated areas, we must always face a fluctuation in the size of the fruit, as we face a fluctuation in the rainfall. Fortunately, however, there is a certain and sure market for a proportion of small Prunes—provided always that the proportion is not too high. Diseases such as Prune Rust, and such pests as Red Spider were also found to increase unduly in certain seasons, the proportion of small Prunes. Trials for the control of these pests have been carried out. **Prune Rust** is rarely of such severity that control measures are warranted, but if required, control measures are available. **For Red Spider, oil spraying during the Winter months** is a sure method of protection. Stock influences and soil fertility also play a part in size of crop and size of fruit.

From the work on Prunes has evolved much of the work now in progress, but which concerns other fruits as much as it concerns Prunes. For instance, it was on the Prune that **"Little Leaf"** was first found in this State, and on this crop much of the preliminary work has been done.

Of the experimental work now in progress, that section covering problems of

Soil Fertility

is probably the largest, and of the greatest importance. In this category are being investigated the determination of profitable manuring programmes for orchards and vineyards, and the maintenance of soil organic matter and fertility by cover cropping. Eight field experiments are being carried out in various parts of the State, in both the irrigated and the non-irrigated areas, on problems of soil fertility.

Also to be included in this section is the study of a group of nutritional disorders, such as "Little Leaf," "Loveday" die-back of the vine, and fruit tree Chlorosis. These appear to be associated with the lack of a "trace element" such as zinc, iron, etc., in the nutrition of the plant. In some cases, other factors may be associated, but there is no doubt that disorders due to trace element deficiencies are of the prime importance in profitable culture of certain fruits in South Australia.

A recently completed survey has shown that Little Leaf particularly constitutes a very real threat to stone and vine fruit production on some of the lighter soil types of the Murray Valley. In Renmark, Berri, Glossop, Barmera, Kingston, Moorook, Waikerie, Cadell, and Mypolonga, blocks of trees and vines severely affected with this disorder have been surveyed, and it is clear that considerable losses of mature trees have already occurred in some areas, and show prospect of considerably extending in the future unless control measures are speedily applied. The position is all the more acute, as particularly in stone fruits some of the heaviest producing blocks are those threatened. Moreover, the non-irrigated districts are not free, the disorder having been found in the middle and the lower north, and in the south in the McLaren Vale district.

In the past two seasons, this disorder — **"Little Leaf"** — has been treated successfully on a small scale in the McLaren Vale, Mypolonga, and Bundaleer districts. This season, fourteen new experimental sites have been selected, so that in each centre where the disease has been detected, by the end of this coming season, the growers will have methods of control proved under the conditions in which they are themselves working.

Very similar to "Little Leaf" in some respects, but differing in others is the **"Loveday" die-back of vines,** which has caused considerable loss in recent years on some of the very light sands of the Murray Valley. This disease has not so far responded to any treatments applied, and detailed investigation is proceeding in two centres. **Fruit tree Chlorosis,** associated with high soil alkalinity which prevents the iron in the soil becoming available to the trees, is also under investigation in three centres. In this case, it has been shown that where the alkalinity is not excessive, a great improvement can be obtained with soil dressings. Under other conditions, however, more drastic measures appear necessary, and investigation is proceeding.

A large section of the work is concerned with the

Control of Pests and Diseases.

In the orchard and the vineyard where the same crop occupies the land year after year, the question of control of insect pests and fungus diseases is more difficult, and more complex than with other types of farming, where the crop can be changed, and in any case, occupies the land for a short period only. One of the most important projects in this section is in connection with control of Gummosis of the Apricot. A large pruning and spraying trial for the control of this most serious disease which has decimated Apricot plantings in certain districts, has been initiated in the Barossa Valley at Light's Pass. Although this test has been in progress for two seasons only, valuable information on the methods of pruning has already been obtained. At the same time, tests on the control

The production of dried fruit and citrus fruit is worked in combination on this nicely laid out property.

of other pests are in progress in various centres.

This season, the Grape Vine Scorch Mite **Tenuipalpus phoenicus Geij** was found in the River settlements of South Australia.

As soon as its presence was known, a general survey was made of its occurrence. It has been found in practically every settlement where vines are grown, and in some areas the infestation was exceedingly heavy. This pest may be of only seasonal importance—and such is our hope—but some areas last season were so severely damaged that experiments are being immediately commenced to assess the importance of this mite, and to ensure that, if necessary, efficient means of control will be available to growers.

Finally, there are a number of types of experiment which can be best grouped under **cultural practice.** These deal with pruning and training of vines and trees; with the reworking of trees from unprofitable varieties to varieties for which there is demand; with the reconstruction of old vines which have lost their productivity through old age, and the testing of new Prune varieties and new stocks therefor. In this connection a very wide test has been started this season in which nine growers in six different districts are co-operating.

Each season, experiments are carried out on the **processing and drying** of tree and vine fruits, and recently completed has been a survey of the question of current quality to ascertain the directions in which improvement may still be possible.

Although the work on dried fruit problems has been intensified only in the past two years when necessary research staff was made available, it is undoubted that material benefits have already accrued. The development of research work, and particularly the initiation of experiments on growers' properties has been of incalculable extension value. Undesirable and unprofitable cultural practices have been dropped, and many growers have been stimulated to adopt improved methods in many directions.

Some experimental projects have now reached the stage where final reports may be published, and preparation of such reports is well in hand. Other work—some of it of overwhelming importance, such as Little Leaf work—is yet in the initial stages, but results are gradually emerging, and from time to time it is proposed to supplement this general outline with progress reports of separate projects.

S. AUST. DRIED FRUITS BOARD.

Sales Increased by Window Displays :: Frost Prevention :: C.S.I.R. Experiments Appreciated.

THE MAIN ITEMS of business considered at the meeting of the Board on August 29, received too late for last issue, included a letter from the Minister of Agriculture, acknowledging the extension of the period of payment, to June 30, 1941, of the subsidy towards Research Work for dried fruits cultural problems.

The Investigation Officers report upon window displays arranged by the Dried Fruits Publicity Committee was tabled. **It stated that retailers expressed the view that sales had been increased by the special window displays.**

A request from the Barmera-Berri Frost Committee for payment of a grant, was considered and it was agreed to make a contribution towards the cost of scientific equipment, such contribution, however, to be paid out of a fund to which certain past and present members of the Board had personally contributed.

Letters and reports from the N.S.W. Board in the matter of experiments being made at the Homebush Laboratories of the C.S.I.R. were read with interest, and it was agreed to ask the N.S.W. Board to keep the Board informed of any developments in the experiments.

In connection with door classification, informative reports made by the graders in the Renmark and Berri districts for the season 1940, were submitted, together with analyses of the grading certificates issued.

Dried Fruits Industry

Confidence in the Future Expressed by Mr. P. Malloch.

CONFIDENCE in the immediate future of the Australian dried fruits industry was expressed by Mr. Peter Malloch in an address to a large gathering of district growers, business representatives and others at Mildura on September 13 last, according to "Sunraysia Daily."

Mr. Malloch stated that the estimated value of the 1940 crop, packed on rail, was £1,998,700, which was £450,000 above the value of the 1939 crop, and £165,000 above the value of the 1938 record crop. Prospects for clearance of the 1941 crop could be regarded with confidence.

The total volume of the Australian crop for 1940, said the speaker, was 95,000 tons, as compared with 72,500 tons in 1939 and 91,700 tons in 1938, which was a record year. The Mildura district crop for 1940, 59,000 tons, was a record; passing by 3,000 tons the previous record district crop of 1938.

The distribution of the 1940 crop had been effected as follows:—Australia, 16,550 tons; Canada, 20,000 tons; New Zealand, 5,500 tons; the East, 700 tons; and the United Kingdom, 49,250 tons.

Australian Sales a Record.

The sales in Australia constituted a record, continued Mr. Malloch. Price control was firm and marketing conditions stable, although the usual distributory channels of merchants, chain stores and syndicate buying groups with trading rights were demanding trading privileges. The military authorities had been the best customer, they having purchased 650 tons.

Canada's purchase of 20,000 tons of the 1940 crop was a record one. In 1939 Canada purchased 14,400 tons, while in 1937 she purchased 17,133 tons, which until this year had stood as Canada's record purchase. Buyers of the 1940 crop had stated that they were very satisfied with the quality, and had commented on the complete freedom from infestation. As in the case of sales to Canada, the purchase by N.Z. of 5,500 tons of the 1940 crop was a record. In 1939 N.Z. purchased 4,400 tons; her previous best purchase, prior to this year, being 4,533 tons in 1937.

This year's sales to the United Kingdom had been effected under four separate contracts, continued Mr. Malloch. In the aggregate, 16,500 tons of Sultanas had been sold to the U.K. at £31 to £45 per ton, while 15,000 tons of Sultanas had been sold at a flat rate of £30 per ton. The U.K. also purchased 15,250 tons of Currants at £25 to £35 per ton, 500 tons of Lexias at £45 per ton, and 1,000 tons of seeded Raisins in one-pound cartons at 6/- per dozen cartons.

It was interesting to note the increased volume of sales in seeded Raisins. In 1938 a trial shipment of 20 tons had been sold in Britain. This line had proved so popular that the purchase had been increased to 1,000 tons this year, and would have been higher had more been available.

Supplies Cut Off.

Referring to the future of the industry, Mr. Malloch stated that so long as no unforeseen change occurred in shipping conditions, we should expect a continuance of a satisfactory trade with Canada and N.Z. The U.K. normally imported 65,000 tons. With Mediterranean supplies cut off, and a maximum of 30,000 to 40,000 tons available from Australia and South Africa, the U.K. would have a shortage of 25,000 tons. It was therefore apparent continued the speaker, that we would have a ready market in the United Kingdom, subject to the Ministry of Food making the purchase. Dried Fruit was ranked high in the list of necessary foodstuffs to be imported in war time.

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The Citrus Industry (Cont. from Page 16)

CITRUS POSITION REVIEWED

Factory Prices Up. Reversal of Grades.

With the factory season for Lemons practically completed, it can be quoted that prices touched a record figure, and supplies were higher than those obtaining in recent years. All V.C.C. Association stocks have been satisfactorily placed. It has been a good season, and although the crop was short in some areas, the total exceeded what was earlier anticipated.

The bulk of Orange sales to factories were based on the price of £10 per ton, an improvement of £2 on recent years. There was a big crop of Oranges, but the increase in price is accounted for by factories taking smaller sizes as compared with normal years, when larger varieties were sought.

Neither Grapefruit nor Seville supplies were equal to factory demands based on normal requirements in recent years. Prices averaged £10 and £16 respectively.

With regard to the marketing position, for the first time in 16 years the Melbourne market has had to cope with small to medium range of Navel Oranges. In normal seasons from 15 to 25 per cent. of the whole crop represents 112 and larger grades (approx. 3⅛ inch), and only about 10 per cent. carries 182 and smaller.

This year, however, the proportion has been reversed in that large fruit represented the smaller proportion and small fruit the larger proportion, about 25 per cent. of the total crop. This has created a very awkward market situation in that the small fruit has had to be sold at low prices, depressing the value of all medium sizes, including the popular kinds, 154 and 168, which had to be sold at a discount on 112-126 instead of the accustomed premium of 2/- to 3/- in these counts.

The V.C.C. Association endeavored to meet this position by recommending growers to leave small sizes on the trees till later in the season, when average returns from the market to mid-September have been almost equal to the record high returns of the short crop year in 1939. Prices per case on individual counts have been lower but the margin in price for 75's and best-selling count has been little better than 1/6 per case, whereas normally it is 4/- to 6/- per case.

Ordinarily, two cases of 75 usually sell at the same price as one case of 154 in mid-season, but this year 75's were so short that they sold at approximately the same price, or better, than the 154's in most packs. The size factor is the result of the abnormal weather conditions experienced in the past two years. The last year's heat wave caught the trees carrying heavy crops and interfered with the moisture balance of the trees, with the result that fruiting twigs did not develop to the stage of producing normal sized fruit. It is anticipated that there will be a light crop next year as a result of the past two years' weather conditions.

With regard to Valencias, last year, owing to a short Navel crop, Valencias from early districts were being handled in September and about 60 per cent. of the crop had been sold before the normal opening date for Valencias, November 1. At the end of this past September, the quantity of Navels to be marketed appeared to be no greater than in the corresponding period in 1938, when good average prices were realised for Valencias from all districts. Now Valencia crops are expected to be of good average value, and it is anticipated that there will not be the same undue proportion of small sizes to cope with as there was with names.

CITRUS STOCKS.

Messrs. Rosen & Son, nurserymen, Carlingford, write as follows:—

Citrus trees worked on Sour Orange stock are extensively asked for by the Victorian growers. As nurserymen, we find this stock rather hard to handle and Lemons seem to be the only trees we can grow successfully on this stock. We are rather keen on citrus trees worked on the trifoliata stock, as it seems to produce a superior quality of fruit and makes a more hardy tree standing up to frost and cold weather better than trees worked on the Citronelle stock. We do feel if people planted citrus trees worked on trifoliata stock they could plant them slightly closer in the orchard, as the tree itself does not seem to make quite as large a tree worked on trifoliata stock as it does on the Common Lemon stock.

Trees worked on the Sweet Orange stock are also extensively asked for by Victorian planters. This is quite a good stock, but it is much harder for the nurseryman to get a good sized tree the first year on this stock.

ORANGE JUICE OUSTS SOUP

After studying the demand for Orange juice in Redlands, Calif., a restaurant owner decided to offer his patrons Orange juice or soup with their lunches. He was agreeably surprised at the response, and states that his sales have increased fifteen times and that soup has been ousted as the first course. So great was the demand that he wore out three presses during last season, and has replaced them with a power oscillating juice extractor. To popularise Orange juice, he placed the extractor in the front window and put up a notice offering free Orange juice with every meal. Large jugs of fresh juice were placed on each table with paper cups, and the diners helped themselves. He states also that his customers increased in number. During spare hours, the waitress brings a glass of Orange juice to each customer before taking the order.

Lady: "I have brought back those stockings I had from you yesterday. They are too fast for me."

Shopkeeper: "Too fast! What do you mean?"

Lady: "When I walk they run."

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Market Notes and Prices

SYDNEY MARKET.

Trading during the month of September was generally satisfactory both for fruit and vegetables, states the Chamber of Fruit and Vegetable Industries in a report dated September 25.

Supplies of Apples were below normal for this period of the year, while the quality of the fruit offering was definitely below standard both as regards quality and sizes. The very dry conditions during the growing period were of course responsible for this. In addition it has been found that fruit is not keeping as well in cold store this season as in past years.

The absence of the "Zealandia" from the Tasmanian run has meant that regular weekly supplies were not available from that State and fruit has had to be sent from cold store in Victoria in order to keep up supplies. The majority of this fruit is not of good quality.

Pears: Pears have been in very short supply and again quality is not up to that of past seasons. Good lines are bringing high values.

Citrus Fruit has been in good supply. The quantities of Navels both from the Irrigation Area and the Coast in the first part of the month were heavier than for the corresponding period last year. Supplies have fallen off during the past fortnight and this has meant an improvement in prices.

Both Victorian and South Australian Navels have been on the market and choice lines sold readily at good values.

The demand for **Lemons** was quiet and the market was inclined to weaken. Good quality **Mandarines** sold well, but small fruit was most difficult to clear even at low prices.

Grape Fruit was in light supply and quality lines are scarce and not equal to the demand.

Pineapples were in ample supply with a fair demand, and good fruit sold readily.

Bananas were in normal supply and clearances were made at satisfactory values.

Vegetables: Fair supplies of most lines of vegetables were available. Good quality new **Beans** from the coastal districts sold at satisfactory rates, but supplies from the North Coast and from Queensland were generally inferior and could only be cleared at low rates.

Peas were in fair supply, but with purchases being made for Melbourne and for the cannery, values held fairly well with choice lines bringing good prices.

Tomatoes: Tomatoes have eased considerably owing to the larger quantities arriving from Queensland in addition to supplies from the Coffs Harbor District and local glass houses.

Cauliflowers also are in light supply, but met with only a fair demand and prices weakened.

Cabbages were in very poor demand.

Bunched Carrots and Parsnips were in light supply and prices of both lines advanced. There was a particularly good enquiry for **Lettuce**, and good values were realised for all choice lines.

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The following prices are issued by the N.S.W. State Marketing Bureau for week ending September 25:—

Apples: G. Smith, 4/- to 13/-; Del. (Tas.), French Crab (Tas.), Sturmer (Tas.), and R. Beauty (Vic.), 3/- to 7/-; Statesman (Vic.), 2/- to 7/-; Crofton, 4/- to 11/-; G. Smith (Tas. and Vic.), 4/- to 9/-; Demo. (Tas.), 4/- to 7/-; G. Smith (W.A.), 11/- to 13/- case.

Pears: Packham's (Vic.), 8/- to 17/-; Jos. (Vic.), 8/- to 15/- case.

Bananas: Nine's and Eight's, 21/- to 23/- (specials higher); Seven's, 18/- to 20/-; Six's, 13/- to 17/- (ripe and inferior lower). **Papaws,** 8/- to 14/- (few higher). **Pineapples,** 7/- to 10/- tropical case.

Oranges: Navel, Coastal 5/- to 10/-, specials 11/-, Irrigation Area 5/- to 9/-; S. Aust., 9/- to 14/- (special brands higher); Common, 2/6 to 7/-. **Lemons:** Coastal, 3/- to 8/-. **Mandarins:** Emperor, 2/- to 10/-, specials to 15/-. **Grapefruit:** Coastal 6/- to 10/- (few higher), Inland 9/- to 12/- (specials higher) per case.

Passionfruit: Choice 10/- to 13/-, specials to 15/-, other descriptions 5/- to 8/- half case.

Strawberries: Queensland 8/- to 15/- per dozen packets and 3/- to 6/- per tray.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Adelaide (2/10/40). — The following notes and prices are supplied by the S.A. Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Association Incorp.

Vegetables: Beans, French (local), 12/- doz. lbs.; Beetroot, 1/6 doz.; Cabbages, large, 2/- to 4/- doz.; Carrots, 2/- doz. bunches; Cauliflowers, 5/- doz.; Celery, 3/- doz. heads; Leeks, 2/- doz.; Lettuces, 1/- to 1/6 doz.; Onions, 4/- to 5/- cwt.; Parsnips, 2/- doz. bunches; Peas, 5/- bush.; Potatoes, 15/- to 16/- cwt., (new) 22/- cwt.; Pumpkins, 12/- doz.; Rhubarb, 1/- to 1/6 doz. lbs.; Tomatoes, firsts, 13/- to 14/- ½ case; Trombones, 20/- cwt.; Turnips, 1/- doz. bunches, Swede 2/- to 2/6 doz. bunches; Triambles, 12/- cwt. (Cases extra.)

Fruits: Oranges, Mandarin 8/- to 10/-, Navel 5/- to 6/-, Grapefruit 8/- to 10/-, Lemons 7/- to 8/-; Bananas, 26/- to 28/- crate; Pineapples, 14/- to 15/- crate; Passionfruit, 18/- to 20/- case.

VICTORIA.

Melbourne (1/10/40): Market quiet. Apples, eating, 6/-, 10/-, choice higher; cooking, 5/-, 7/-, choice higher; Bananas, 14/-, 22/-, choice higher; Grapefruit, 7/-, 12/-, selected higher; Lemons, 6/-, 10/-, selected higher; Mandarins, 3/6, 11/-, selected higher; Oranges, 4/-, 8/-, selected higher; Passionfruit, 14/-, 18/-, choice higher; Pineapples, 8/-, 10/-, choice higher; Pears, 6/-, 10/-, few higher; Celery, 5/-, 9/-, choice higher; Tomatoes, S.A., best, to 14/-; West Australian, 6/-, 10/-.

The Market Grower

THE CULTIVATION OF BEETROOT.

Varieties and Fertilizers Recommended.

In a brief note upon the growing of Beets for the table market, the Queensland Agricultural Journal gives the following advice as to fertilizer treatment.

The Beet will grow well in most soils, but like other root crops, it does best in a light loamy soil. The soils should be prepared thoroughly and enriched with liberal dressings of well-rotted stable manure or vegetable matter.

Commercial fertilizers may be used, and the Agricultural Chemist advises the following mixture:—

Sulphate of ammonia 1½ to 2 cwt.
Superphosphate .. 2 to 3 cwt.
Muriate of potash . ¾ to 1 cwt.

A complete fertilizer, 2-12-6, also, may be used at the rate of from 4 to 6 cwt. to the acre.

The fertilizer should be applied at the time of thinning if the seed has been sown where the plants are to remain; or otherwise at the time of transplanting. A top-dressing about a month later with sulphate of ammonia at the rate of 1 to 2 cwt. to the acre would be beneficial.

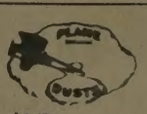
As the seed is usually sown in the field, it is necessary to have the soil in a fine state of tilth prior to planting. The seed is customarily planted in rows about 2 feet 6 inches apart for horse cultivation, or 1 foot 6 inches apart for hand. Six to 8 lb. of seed is usually sufficient to plant an acre, or 1 oz. to every 150 feet. It should be sown to a depth of from ½ inch in heavy ground to 1 inch in light soil. The seed is usually slow in germinating. The distance between plants may vary from 3 to 4 inches, according to variety sown. Thorough cultivation is necessary after planting out, and until the plants are a fair size care must be taken not to injure them with the implements or heavy clods of earth.

Beets should be harvested when of suitable size for market. They are usually washed and tied in bundles of about six. Varieties recommended are — Nonpariel, which has a long oval shape; and Crimson Globe — a turnip-rooted, early Beet, suitable for hot districts.

THE STORAGE OF ERGOT.

Prevention of Mould.

IN an earlier issue we reported the scarcity of ergot for drug manufacturing purposes owing to war conditions limiting the supplies from overseas, and suggested that this provided an opportunity for Australian cultivators to produce rye ergot. In dealing with the storage of rye ergot a report from U.S.A. States that when rye ergots were stored for a period, fungous moulds developed on all samples with a moisture content exceeding 9 per cent., whilst no mould developed on any sample with a moisture content less than 6 per cent. Whilst it is unlikely that producers of ergots in this country will keep the ergots very long before selling them, the investigations demonstrate the necessity for thorough drying in order to obviate the possibility of deterioration in storage by mould growth.



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NEW FRENCH BEAN.

The Clarendon Wonder.

By crossing Tweed Wonder with Keeney's Stringless Refugee, Mr. Shirlow, of the Hawkesbury Agricultural College has evolved a new variety known as Clarendon Wonder, which is favorably reported upon. It has a light red colored seed of attractive appearance, and is equal to Hawkesbury Wonder in yield, quality and disease resistance.

Another recent new variety is Duluth, a variety introduced from Minnesota, U.S.A., a heavy cropper with short, fleshy, stringless, white pods, which remain brittle and free from string, to a late stage of maturity.

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Harcourt Fruit Supply Co. Ltd.
Victorian Central Citrus Assn. Ltd.
Tasmania: State Fruit Advisory Board.
New South Wales: Griffith Producers' Co-op. Co. Ltd.
Batlow Packing House Co-op. Soc. Ltd.

Motor Notes

CARE OF SPARK PLUGS.

MODERN CONDITIONS, speed, long distances and heavy use of the car or truck make demands upon the spark plug and road trouble can be almost entirely eliminated if the following rules are observed.

1. Replace sparking plugs when they have been used for 10,000 miles or more.
2. Replace plugs with the type designed to meet the operating conditions of individual engines.

Actually there are only five causes of "trouble" with sparking plugs:—

1. Normal wearing out. 2. An abnormal gap—either too wide or too narrow. 3. A broken or cracked insulator. 4. Pre-ignition. 5. Fouling.

It is a wise plan to have spark plugs checked periodically and to have them properly cleaned when necessary.

CHANGING A WHEEL.

Get All Nuts Tight.

WHEN fitting a wheel of the stud type, care should be taken to tighten the nuts evenly, a little at a time, so that the wheel is drawn evenly on to the hub, and to finish by drawing up each nut as tightly as can be managed with the special wrench in the tool kit.

A good practice is to put a few drops of oil on the nuts before tightening. This method should ensure that a stiff nut will not be mistaken for a tightly-screwed one.

Squeaks and creaks from a wheel indicate looseness, and should be investigated immediately.

THE AIR CLEANER.

Remove All Dust.

If the air cleaner on your carburettor has not been examined since the dusty Summer days, it should be attended to at once.

Most modern cleaners are of the filtration type, intercepting dust on oiled wire mesh surfaces. Summer conditions led to the disposition of so much dust that the air supply to the carburettor finally will be reduced, leading to a waste of fuel as surely as a leak in the petrol tank.

Cleaning consists merely of washing the filter element in petrol or kerosene and then re-oiling according to the maker's instructions. Any service station will carry out the work quickly and at nominal cost.

GIVE YOUR ENGINE A CHANCE.

Don't Rush Things.

IF your motor vehicle engine comes to a stop for some cause unknown to you when perhaps you are a long distance from mechanical help do not despair immediately. Just sit quietly in your driver's seat and make no attempt to start the engine up again for two or three minutes. If the engine still refuses to fire wait a further five minutes, and then make a fresh attempt. It is astonishing the number of drivers who have adopted this plan with frequent success.

USE YOUR TYRE PUMP.

NO matter how many spare wheels you have, there are uses for the tyre pump. If the engine has been decarbonised, it can be used to blow the carbon fragments out of awkward corners, and it can do the same thing with gravel and dust when cleaning out the body interior. Pressure from the tyre pump is more effective than blowing to clear a blocked petrol pipe, while should a pipe break, it can be joined up with a short sleeve of pump hose, which will last for months.

TYRE WEAR.

Watch the Tread.

In these days motor tyres are uniformly well made and run true, but often the driver can cause uneven wear by neglect to check up periodically. For economy as well as safety the tyre should wear evenly and on the tread. A wobbly wheel will cause great wear on the tyre and dished or badly set tyres can cause damage or danger to the walls of the tyre. Watch your tyres and save expense as well as the danger of an unexpected blow-out.

Booked!

The school-room was one mass of draughts, and little Freddie was always catching cold. His mother was not too pleased with this state of affairs, and decided to write to Freddie's teacher.

"Dear Teacher," she wrote, "will you let Freddie sit in a place that is not draughty?"

To which the teacher replied: "Dear Madam, when I find a place in this school that isn't draughty I'm going to sit there myself."

"BLITZKRIEG" IN THE ORCHARD.

There will be war in the orchard in the coming Summer months—as usual! The sound of the spray pump will be heard in the land and a "mist of death" will be sprayed on every leaf and twig.

Year after year the fight goes on for every year somewhere, somehow, some of the enemy escape to carry on the battle for fruit that is yours by right of planting, ploughing, pruning and the sweat of your brow.

But codling, the Horticultural Enemy No. 1, thinks she has as much right to your fruit as you have, and she'll take it by fair means or foul. If codling once succeeds in taking cover in the calyx and the young innocent Apple closes over her, all unsuspecting, it is no good to the Apple, or to you. Fortunately, science provides an attacking weapon and ammunition that will control all insect enemies and fungus pests. The modern spraygun is as efficient as the machine-guns of a British Spitfire Fighter. If your aim is half as good and you use the right ammunition and shoot at the right moment, then a clean-up of the orchard enemies is certain.

For codling, the right ammunition is arsenate of lead. If you time your attack within a day or two of the first flight of the moth and use as an adjunct (to increase the effectiveness of your arsenate of lead) Gargoyle White Spraying Oil, you will not only leave a layer of arsenic for the first meal of the grub, but you will lay down a film of oil that will destroy many eggs and hold the arsenic in place for a much longer period against the washing-off action of Summer showers.

For citrus pests, red scale and brown scale, Gargoyle White Spraying Oil is excellent "ammunition" for use on its own, and the best time to put up a barrage is when the young scale "crawlers" emerge. Then are they most vulnerable. It is some days before they settle down on a succulent spot to feed, shed their legs and wax themselves over. Catch them "on the crawl," before they put on their waxen roof, then the oil will suffocate them at once. Those that emerge after you have sprayed are prevented by the oil film from waxing themselves down, and they die.

Gargoyle White Oil is also quite compatible with, and therefore the ideal adjunct for, Bordeaux (copper sulphate or bluestone) which is recognised as the best fungus-destroying spray obtainable for black spot (Ventura inequalis of the Apple, and Ventura pirina of the Pear), and also of the dreaded Citrus Septoria. Throughout the Summer a scientific spray programme will keep all these insect and fungus enemies well under control and result in better fruit and healthier trees.

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Specialty Overseas Export All Countries.
New Market, Union St., Adelaide
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The Pig Pen

BARLEY FOR PIGS.

Tests in South Australia.

A test made in South Australia and reported in the State Journal of Agriculture, shows that malting barley increased the weight of weaners as compared with Cape barley. Twelve pigs, divided into four lots, were tested, two lots were fed Cape barley with boiled butchers' offal and two lots on Cape and malting barley with 10 per cent. meat meal. All received half lb. greenfeed per pig per day.

The rate of increase favored those fed malting barley at 1.48 lb. per day as against those fed Cape barley at 1.36 lb. per day.

This was particularly noticeable during the early stages of the test. The total food consumed and the food consumed per pound of pork were, however, greater in both of the pens fed malting barley (4.95 lb. as against 4.8 lb. of feed per pound of pork).

The pen fed malting barley and butchers' offal consumed 62 lb. more grain per pig than the lot fed Cape barley and butchers' offal, and the malting barley and meat meal pen consumed 48.5 lb. per pig more grain than did the lot receiving Cape barley and meat meal.

All pigs were exceptionally good in the ham, being well filled, firm and particularly fine in the bone. Under the block test the pigs did not grade out as well as they might have graded. The chief trouble was lack of body length, heaviness of shoulder and in one case excessive back fat.

The pigs fed Cape barley produced the best carcasses, whether fed in conjunction with meat meal or butchers' offal.

PNEUMONIA IN PIGS.

Prevention and Cure.

Pneumonia and worm infestation make the two most common losses to the pig breeder, the latter predisposing to the former. In this case, the healthy pig is less liable to pneumonia and care should be taken to control worm and germ infestation. Two classifications of control are prevention and cure.

Prevention covers all measures that will reduce liability to infestation and the pigs should be kept under proper hygienic and feeding conditions. The former relates to accommodation and the latter to resistance whilst management covers both.

Curative includes comfortable, clean, free-from-draughts quarters with clean, dry bedding, good food and clean water. Because they are pigs, and generally considered dirty animals, there is no reason to expect that any old quarters will suffice to house pigs. Green feed, preferably lucerne, is recommended in generous quantities with skim milk, meat meal, cereal grains, and cod liver oil, as supplements.

Poultry Notes

PERCHING TIME.

Crooked Breast Bones.

Some difference of opinion prevails as to the correct age at which chickens should be allowed to perch. The percentage of crooked breasts is reported to be growing, and perching is blamed for a large proportion of this trouble. Some utility men claim that crooked breasts can be traced to excessive laying, but a writer in "Poultry" (Eng.) points out that if that is so, pullets and cockerels would not be affected. He continues:—

We are told by those who should certainly be fully qualified to prove their statement that it is not hereditary, but can we accept this in view of some cases that come before us? Last season I was reporting at a show where there was a large class of Minorcas, and an exhibitor asked me if I would handle his fowls and tell him what I thought of them. The exhibitor had three exhibits of excellent type, size, and fine condition. There were three generations and all three had exactly the same kind of deformed breast bone—the youngest not so bad as the oldest—but with the same curves. A different male had been used for breeding each year, but all the progeny from this one hen showed the same failing. They were good layers of large-sized eggs, and had done well in the show pen. The owner said he did not like having such fowls, but as their instructor had told him it did not matter what deformity they had, so long as they laid eggs, he had kept breeding from them, because of their fine show points.

Owing to the difficulty in obtaining poultry feed, some English poultrymen have taken to growing mushrooms.

WATCH THE TAILS.

The carriage of the tail varies with the respective requirements of the breeds. Only by knowing the standard for each breed can the beginner recognise what is wanted as a characteristic.

A White Leghorn female, for example, should have a whipped tail of the close type; if it is spread like a fan it is defective. The sickles of a Leghorn male should follow the half-circle and if they stick straight up in the air that, too, is a fault.

The tail of the White Wyandotte female should be full and appear like a triangle from the rear; if the feathers are close or whipped that is a fault. One expects a similarly full tail in the Barnevelder and the Australorp, yet in the Minorca and Ancona the closely whipped tail is desirable.

Nothing is uglier in a light-breed male than a squirrel tail, indicated by sickles which bend towards the back of the neck. If the tail falls to one side the defect is known as "wry-tail."

DIRTY EGGS.

In Victoria there is an Egg Board which does not like dirty eggs. Apart from that fact, farmers should know that the public wants clean eggs and that any eggs that are dirty, stained with droppings or have feet marks on them, do not bring as good a price as clean eggs. This cleaning should be done with a damp cloth as soon as the eggs are collected. Don't wait till next day when the dirt will be harder to get off. Dirty eggs also do not keep as well as clean eggs. The egg shell is a porous article and will absorb dirt left on it. Make a point of cleaning the eggs after each collection. Plain clean water and a clean rag are all that are needed.

Home Notes

LOOSE TOOL HANDLES.

If your axe or hammer handle is loose, smear the end that goes into the axe or hammer with heavy oil or grease and put it in a fire until the oil is foaming hot and the wood begins to burn. Then drive it into the head and wedge as usual. The wood will then grip and the head remain firmly held.

COOKING AND VITAMINS.

In these days, diets are constructed upon the vitamin value of food and much is written about the dozen various kinds of vitamins at present known. But it is possible to lose the vitamin value of foods by wrong cooking, says "Food and Life," which suggest the following for the preservation of vitamin values in cooking and serving foods.

"Don't stir air into foods while cooking.

Don't put them through a sieve while still hot.

Don't use soda in cooking green vegetables.

In boiling foods, raise the temperature to the boiling point as rapidly as possible.

Use as little water as possible.

Don't use long cooking processes such as stewing when shorter methods are feasible.

Don't throw away the water in which vegetables have been cooked. Use it in making gravies, sauces, and soups.

Don't fry foods valuable for their content of vitamins A, B or C.

Prepare chopped fruit and vegetable salads just before serving.

CLEANING WINDOWS.

When cleaning your windows add a little paraffin to the water, and you will find they will shine more quickly.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO FRUITGROWERS

All Members under Fidelity Bond

In response to numerous requests from growers for information as to who are members of the **Wholesale Fruit Merchants' Association of Victoria** the following list is given. All are members of the above Association, and are registered firms carrying on business in the

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Correspondence is invited by the Association.

Office : 21 Wholesale Fruit Market, Queen Street, Melbourne. Phone: F 4866.

Tasmanian News and Notes

Apples and Pears Showing for Good Crops — Reworking Fruit Trees — Announcement of 1941 Plans Desired.

(Contributed)

THE SEASON in the north continues to be fairly moist and mild for the time of year. Pruning, of course is finished and spraying for black spot is in full swing.

The prospects for the coming crop are pretty good on the average, Apples are showing better than was expected earlier in the season and most varieties of Pears are blossoming rather profusely.

In the southern districts the work is fairly well up to time considering we are all short-handed, pruning is finished and ploughing well advanced, but of course spraying for black spot takes precedence of the other work.

There were several more overhead spray outfits installed this Winter, mostly electric driven, which will help the petrol problem.

Reworking trees is also going on to a considerable extent, the favorite varieties appear to be: Red Jonathan, Delicious and Grannies, so in the near future we may reasonably expect these varieties to be so plentiful that the price will recede and the general public will want a change as usual.

I often doubt the wisdom of the compulsory elimination of so many varieties, as different markets have different tastes and they change from time to time. The general public likes variety as every one in the confectionery trade and lolly trade knows.

We had better take care lest we restrict the choice of Apples and Pears too much.

With Pears the reworking seems to be largely to Packhams, which will be in heavy supply in the near future.

Most growers are working their places as well as possible under the circumstances in spite of the uncertainty of the market prospects for the 1941 crop.

It is about time that the Federal Government decided what they intend to do in the matter or chaos will reign supreme. Personally, I can see no valid reason for the delay.

No one knows what type of case to get in, so few are bold enough to order their requirements, and the season is well advanced.

The discontinuance of the manure bounty, coupled with the rise in price of all manures is going to have a serious effect on primary production in all its branches. With the shortage of labor it is more important than ever to get maximum yields per acre and dear manure is going to reduce the returns.

Much dissatisfaction is expressed here at the way the N.S.W. sub-committee of the Apple and Pear Board handled the business this season.

PORT HUON ANNUAL REPORT.

Profit of £3,879.

The annual report of the Port Huon Fruitgrowers' Association shows a satisfactory position.

Assets represented by land, buildings, machinery, etc., increased to £43,605. The pulp trading account registered a sales turnover of £84,891, creating a record. A subsidiary company to manufacture fruit juices was floated and, in spite of war conditions affecting marketing, over £3,000 worth of fruit was thus processed. The Association added several new packing sheds and put up their record pack to date. After allowing for all contingencies, income tax reserve and general administration expenses, a profit of £3,879/6/10 is recorded and a dividend approved of 7½ per cent.

REDUCED POTATO CROP.

Shipments from Tasmania and New Zealand.

With crop failures in N.S.W. and poor yields in most Victorian growing areas, high prices are prevailing and both Tasmania and New Zealand have been called upon to meet requirements in Australia. In mid-September prices had increased to £15 per ton for best quality. It is expected that the dearth will not be overcome for some weeks until W.A. and Tasmanian supplies arrive.

The voluntary scheme of controlling Tasmanian supplies to the mainland was extended to Melbourne and Newcastle during September. The Commonwealth Prices Commissioner, Professor Copland, recently stated that merchants showed a tendency to withhold supplies from the market to secure higher prices, but that action would be taken where hoarding could be proved. Retail prices at 5½ to 8 lbs. for 1/- were ruling during the month.

To meet conditions, the Commonwealth Government agreed to permit 5,000 tons of Potatoes to come from New Zealand when it was estimated that a deficiency of some 60,000 tons would be faced. Reasonable control would be observed to protect Australian growers.

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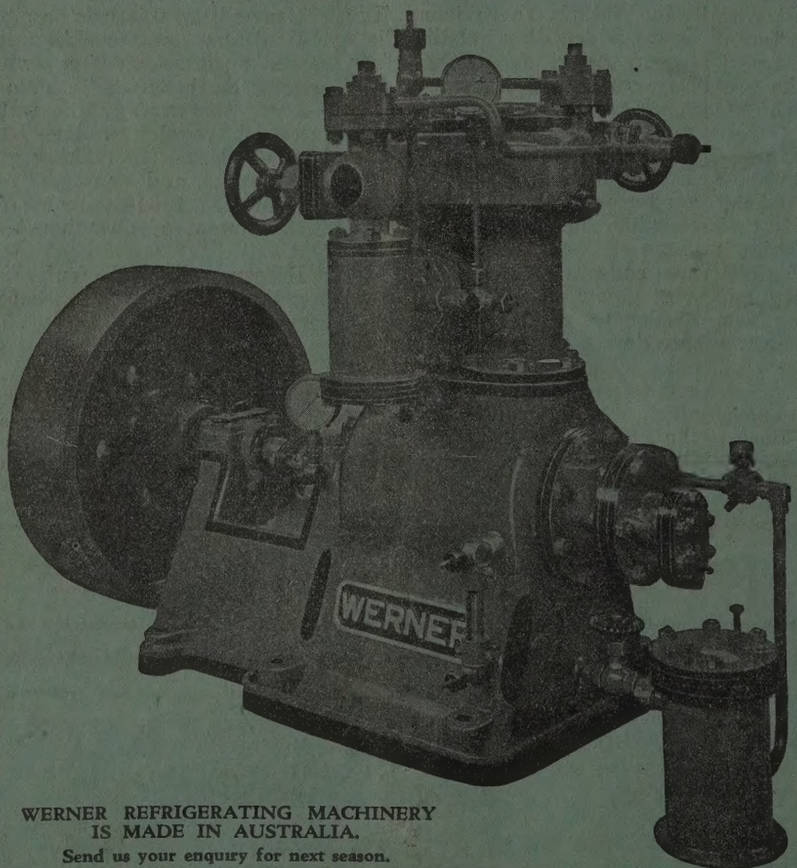

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N.S.W.: R. J. Lindsay, 99 Kippax Street, Sydney.
Stuart Walker, 174 Clarence Street, Sydney.
Q'land: Garoche Pty. Ltd., Wooloongabba, Brisbane.

Printed by the Horticultural Press Pty. Ltd. for the Fruit World Pty. Ltd., Registered Office 8-10 Orr Street. Melbourne: and at 439 Kent Street, Sydney.